THE SCRIVENER

The Journal of Calderdale Family History Society
Incorporating Halifax & District

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CALDERDALE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Incorporating HALIFAX and DISTRICT

Calderdale Family History Society was founded on the 7th March 1985.

We aim

- To encourage interest in, and assist with, research relevant to the study of family history in Halifax and the Calder valley.

Our area

- Covers the modern Calderdale Council established in 1975, which broadly covers the same area as the Ancient Parish of Halifax, with the addition to the west of the township of Todmorden and Walsden.

We do this by

- Holding meetings, usually on the 4th Thursday of each month (except December) in Halifax.
- Publishing *The Scrivener,* a quarterly journal, in paper form for full members and on our website for internet members. Contact the Editor.
- Publishing a monthly Newsletter for members who have an email address, and a Facebook page. Contact the Assistant Webmaster.
- Hosting a website www.cfhsweb.com/web/, and a members' forum. Contact the Webmaster.
- Running a Research Room at Brighouse Library two half days a week for personal research. Contact the Research Room co-ordinator.
- Running projects to transcribe records relevant to members' research. Contact the Projects Co-ordinator.
- Publishing transcribed records. Contact the Publications Officer.
- Providing an enquiry and search service from our records in the Research Room. Contact the Enquiry service Co-ordinator.
- Maintaining a list of members' interests by surname and dates of interest, which are available to members on the website. Each quarter new additions are published in *The Scrivener.* Contact the Members' Interests Co-ordinator.
- Maintaining an index of "Strays" (Calderdale people who appear in records elsewhere). Contact the Strays Co-ordinator.

Membership

- Is open to all family historians who have an interest in the area. Contact the Membership Secretary.
- Annual subscriptions are £10.00 for UK individuals (£12.00 for family membership), £15/ £17 for Overseas
- Internet membership is £5.50/ £7.50 which only provides information such as the journal on the Internet, but not on paper.
- Subscriptions are due on the 1st of the month, on the anniversary of joining the Society (cheques made payable to CFHS.) and should be sent to the Treasurer.
- Overseas payments must be made in sterling, drawn on a bank with a branch in the UK, by Sterling Money Order.
- Membership subscriptions may be paid annually by Standing Order:
  Account Name : Calderdale FHS **Bank Sort Code** : 30-93-76 **Acc. No**. 01670491
  Reference to use : Memb. No. & Surname. (eg 1234Smith)
- Credit Card payments for subscriptions and purchases of our publications may be made over the Internet via Genfair (www.genfair.co.uk).

Contacting the Society

- All correspondence requiring a reply must be accompanied by a S.A.E. or 2 recent I.R.C.'s [International Reply Coupons]. Contact the Secretary or appropriate officer.
- The names, addresses and email contacts of the Society's officers and co-ordinators appear inside the back cover of *The Scrivener* and on the Society's website.

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PUBLICATION & SERVICES SUPPLEMENT P1- P4

THE SCRIVENER

Publication Dates	Deadline Dates for Copy
SUMMER 2017 (June)	**MAY 1st**
AUTUMN 2017 (September)	**AUGUST 21st**
WINTER 2017 (December)	**NOVEMBER 13th**
SPRING 2018 (March)	**FEBRUARY 12th**

Please note that, due my other commitments, the copy date for the Summer issue is earlier than previously. Editor.

Data Protection Act

As a "not for profit" organisation, we are not required to notify the Data Protection Authorities in the UK regarding the holding of personal data. However you should know that we hold on the Society's computer the personal data that you provide us. Furthermore we make this information available to other members for the purposes of following up "Members' Interests".

As part of this, those details are posted on our Members' Only website, which, under certain circumstances, can be accessed by non-members. If you either do not want us to hold your details on our computer and/or you do not want your details made available to other members as described above, please contact our Membership Secretary by letter, or email at membsec@cfhsweb.co.uk.

Insurance Exclusions
The insurance which we hold for certain activities undertaken by members is limited to cover for members under 75 years of age. Consequently, any member over 75 who is concerned about taking part in specific Society activities should contact the Secretary for clarification.

FRONT COVER

One of the early ideals of Esperanto was for mankind to become "unu granda rondo familia" (one large family circle), where nationality and origin were of little importance. This postcard points to the idealism of the period, showing Prussian and Spaniard, Arab and Japanese, Scot and French person, men and women, all linking hands and dancing harmoniously in a circle. "La Rondo" is Esperanto for "The circle". Zamenhof's dream was not to get rid of national differences, but for people of various backgrounds to understand one another and get on.

(See the Article on Esperanto in December 2016 Scrivener)

Editorial

Many of our members do not live in the Calderdale area and have contacted me to say that they would like some background information. We do transcriptions of parish records and burial records, and it would be useful to know where these places are (or were) to see if their ancestors were likely to have been buried in them, and for general interest. If any of you know anything about the history, location, or anything else of interest, about any of the places we hold records of, please let me know. Pictures of them would be particularly welcome.

How do you do your family research? Records of Births, Marriages and Deaths are the primary source; the branches and leaves on the tree, so to speak. But the detail, the light and shade provided by other sources, adds a great deal of interest. Census records, newspapers, wills, military records, court records, can provide more intimate insights into our ancestors' lives.

The more your ancestor interacted with authority, the more you are likely to find out about him or her. If they led quiet, blameless, hardworking lives, they probably will not have left much of a footprint!

While in the Huddersfield library, I found one reference to an ancestor of mine:- "On this day one hundred years ago, John Holroyd died." They certainly had the right date, but absolutely no further information was given! I suspect that they thought it was "Mr. John" of Stainland Manor, and not "our John" the ordinary farmer and coal miner.

I know a lot about Benjamin Holroyd, butcher of Stainland. In 1746 He married Sarah Gledhill, and they had a bunch of children. In 1750 He petitioned the Savile estate for permission to enclose a piece of land in Stainland to build a dwelling. In his will of 1802 he left "all my dwellings" etc. Beds and bedding to his wife and daughter, "household plate" etc. to his son Benjamin, and £50 each to his children. So he must have been pretty well to do.

What I don't know about him is whether or not his son William was my ancestor! The parish register records two Williams, son of Benjamin Holroyd, and as mothers' names are not included, I have no means of knowing whether "Our William" was the son of Benjamin the butcher, or of Benjamin who married Betty Wilson, and about whom I know nothing!

Once again, many thanks to all of you who have sent lovely accounts of your ancestors and your search for them. (If your piece has not appeared in this issue, don't worry, I have not forgotten it!)

editor@cfhsweb.com

July Talk - Writing in the Lake District
by Isobel Stirk.

At the July meeting held on 28th July Isobel Stirk gave a lecture entitled *Writing in the Lake District.* Isobel said that the Lake District is a beautiful area which has drawn many people there - including poets and writers in the 18th and 19th centuries including Wordsworth, Southey and Coleridge.

Isobel said that of the Wordsworth family, who originated in Cockermouth, it is probably William who is the most famous today but his sister Dorothy played a big part in his writing, encouraging him and helping him in any way she could and she continued to live with her brother, even after his marriage. She assisted in helping to bring up his increasing family until a debilitating illness robbed her of her facilities. The connection with Halifax was pointed out - Dorothy Wordsworth had lived with her mother's cousin Elizabeth Threlkeld for a while in Halifax, had attended a boarding school in Hipperholme and both brother and sister had stayed with Elizabeth when she lived at Triangle. It is thought that in this area they heard some folk-lore and William based his poem *Lucy Gray* on a local tale.

After the Wordsworths left Dove Cottage in Grasmere the house was occupied by Thomas de Quincy - writer and famous for his autobiography, *The Confessions of an English Opium Eater.* The lecture emphasised that the taking of opium and its derivatives was very common in those days and was sold quite openly and that many patent medicines, taken well into the 20th century, contained opium.

Isobel pointed out that drug taking and its effects were written about by many 19th century writers including Anne Bronte - *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall,* George Eliott - *Silas Marner,* Wilkie Collins - *The Moonstone* and in Conan Doyle's ' Sherlock Holmes' stories.

Isobel turned to more modern times and told how after meeting and being encouraged by Canon Rawnsley, a vicar at Wray Windermere and one of the founders of *The National Trust,* Beatrix Potter became interested in preserving the countryside in the Lake District area. She had always been interested in animals and plants, was a voracious reader, expert painter and mycology was her passion. Her stories began when she wrote a 'picture letter' to the son of her old governess and this was the beginning of Peter Rabbit, Mrs. Tiggywinkle, The Tailor of Gloucester and many other animal characters. Unfortunately her fiancé, a publisher with whom she had worked closely, died and Beatrix, devastated and grieving, retreated to Hill Top, at Near Sawrey in the Lake District. After marrying a local solicitor she continued writing and purchased additional farms to preserve the countryside. She was a key figure in saving the traditional Herdwick sheep from extinction. On her death in 1943 she left all her property to the National Trust.

The lecture ended with words from Alfred Wainwright who fell in love with the Lake District in his early twenties and devoted his life to sharing that love in writing guide books of the area - with delightful pen and ink sketches and maps. It was Ms Stirk's opinion that to the sentiments of Wainwright's words taken from his '*For Those who love the Hills*' the writers she had mentioned and everyone could say a veritable Amen.

July 2016

UNWANTED CERTIFICATES.

BIRTHS.

Fred Haigh. Born September 1866 in Sowerby, Halifax.
Fred Haigh. Born April 1876 in Chapel Town, Halifax.
Fred Haigh. Born September 1876 in Bradford Road, Brighouse.
Mary Sutcliffe. Born March 1843 in Broadbottom, Wadsworth, Todmorden.

DEATH.

Elizabeth Haigh. Died June 1901 aged 63 years in the workhouse, Halifax.

The above certificates have been donated to the Society.

If you are interested in any of the above certificates please contact
Joan Drake, Publications Officer at publications@cfhsweb.com

Warwickshire County Record Office
will be changing its hours to the following from 13th March 2017.

Weds. , Thurs., Fri. ~ 10-4
Sat. ~ 10-1

The office will no longer be closed for a Collections week each month but will take a two week break in the winter period the date of which is yet to be confirmed. This will enable staff to work on cataloguing larger collections and contribute to our aim of improving the quality, quantity and availability of our online catalogues and digitised collections.

Sam Collenette, Archives and Historic Environment Manager, Warwickshire County Council.

AugustTalk ~ Tracing WW II Relatives
by Phil Judkins.

This should help anyone tracing the careers of people in the military in WW2, with their family history researches.

To begin with, write down the name of the person you want to research and which service they were in, i.e. army, navy, air force, and if they died in the conflict. Next, what rank they were, date of birth, parents' names and addresses and if they became an officer. Then go to the Veterans Agency website to apply for a service record for your relative. This will cost you £30 and can take many months to come back. Most WW2 records have survived and you will need to be next of kin or have written permission to apply. Eventually you will be sent the service record and you will need to set your relative's service in context with what was happening in the war at that time. The UK National Archives at Kew have a lot of documents and information on line, but you will have to pay to download them, although if you go to Kew in person, there will be no charge. This applies if the service person survived the war. If not, a good free source of information for all three services is the Commonwealth Graves Commission's website. Check if any local people have published research which will aid you. There is a good document by Hornshaw and Fowler called Calderdale War Dead, which is very helpful.

Go to the Commonwealth War Graves Commissions website and choose 'Find War Dead' and fill in the boxes. Remember that deaths continued for a long time after 1945, being shown for example, as 'died of wounds' or 'the effects of being a prisoner of war'. The spelling of surnames must be entered correctly eg. Sidebottom or Sidebotham, or any other names which sound similar. If in doubt about a first name, don't use it as a search term, as the services were notorious for using nicknames. Also don't use ranks unless you are absolutely certain of them. The speaker helped a lady looking for a relative who was a flight sergeant in the RAF, but was having no success in finding him, as he was a pilot. By trying sergeant, she found him, and he was shown as a glider pilot. The Army doesn't have the rank of flight sergeant, although sergeant was also a rank in the RAF, and many of those were pilots and bombers too. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission holds records for many civilians also.

Many people were in the services in WW2, with over a million involved in the RAF in the UK. The key to RAF histories is often the squadron which people were posted to. This can usually be found from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission or from service record files. Very helpful guides have been published, which show which command each particular squadron belonged to, such as bomber command and coastal command, and what was happening to these commands and also their losses, which were recorded on

a daily basis. The losses for bomber command are summarised in three books.

A local lad, Wilfred Adams, of Mount Street, Wibsey, Bradford, worked at 223 Kings Street, Halifax and was killed in a flying accident, aged 20, in January 1943. He was in 23 operational training units, and if you look in bomber command operational training losses, this shows he took off at 11.38 from Stratford on Avon for a navigational exercise. He climbed through scattered cloud and collided with a bomber from the same unit. Both aircraft disintegrated, crashing at 12.15 near Honnington airfield in Suffolk. The four Royal Canadian Airforce crew and four fellow Canadians from Sutton Airfield were killed and are buried in All Saints Churchyard, Honnington. Sergeant Adams was taken to Scholemoor Cemetery in Yorkshire.

The Speaker was asked about a man called Arthur Marley, who died in WW2, with absolutely nothing else known. On filling in the relevant information for the website, it showed Sergeant Arthur Marley, service number, 19 years old from York, in the RAF and who died on the 24 May, 1942, buried at Freetown Cemetery in Sierra Leone. On clicking on his name, much more information was shown. He was a pilot, and was the son of Lewis and Millie Marley. From a crash card report, a court of enquiry found that the pilot was carrying out low flying, in a flagrant breach of discipline, causing the aircraft to crash into the ground in an almost vertical dive. Marley had only arrived in Sierra Leone, a few days earlier when this occurred, and had probably not been told that tropical air doesn't support low flying, and so the young man lost his life. Another enquiry the speaker helped with, was from the speaker's home town of Wakefield. This was a young man called Jack Perfect, who had died in WW2. On pressing 'search', there were two men with the same name. One a Flight Lieutenant and one a Sergeant. On clicking on the one from Wakefield, he was a 19 year old wireless operator flying with 502 Squadron and was buried in Grangemouth Grandsable Cemetery in Scotland. Squadron 502 was a part of coastal command, and by checking with their losses guide, more is shown. Jack Perfect was flying in a twin-engine Whitley powered aircraft, chassis number p5090 of 502 Squadron, which was flying out of Limavady in N. Ireland on convoy escort duties, when it crashed in Perthshire, Scotland. One of the crew survived and the others were buried in Grandsable Cemetery. Note that flying units don't have to be squadrons, they can be called flights or units and all these units have their losses books. On checking out a copy of the accident report card, from the RAF museum at Hendon, we find that their wireless failed, and without that they wouldn't be able to get their bearings. The aircraft would carry a compass, but these were easy to knock off balance, explaining why they were flying around the middle of Scotland, with no idea where they were.

The speaker was asked about naval personnel also - Jack Sim was a navy man who died in WW2 and nothing else was known about him, other than he

had a connection with submarines. On entering his name for a search, again there were choices. One of the results was a stoker, who would not be on a submarine. Jack Sim was known to have a local connection with Castleford. All navy ships have a pennant number, used as shorthand for identification, painted in large letters and numbers on the side of a ship. P45 (not today's meaning!) is better known as submarine HMS Unrivalled, and it had been adopted by the town of Castleford in WW2, as a result of the warship saving drives. It is commemorated on the Chatham naval memorial for sailors with no known grave, so it would appear that, he was buried or lost at sea.

War diaries can be seen on the National Archives website and will show every flight by squadrons and their crew members. An extract from the 502 Squadron diary, shows Jack Perfect's aircraft detailed to take off from Limavady, on escort duty with convoy SC11. SC stands for slow convoy. Wireless Operator Curtis is shown to be on the crew, but likely Jack volunteered as he was new to the squadron, and wanted to get some extra training. Sadly, due to the faulty wireless sending them off course, he was killed.

A very good source of information, is the squadron associations, who issue a list of those in existence, in their Flypast magazine. Alas, veterans are getting fewer and memories growing dim, as time passes by.

There are a series of books called the Action Stations, which cover every airfield in Britain, and which give a history, showing which squadrons were based there and showing maps and photographs.

You might wish to know about the aircraft your relative flew in, and if so, air historians have written a series of guides, giving details of every aircraft the RAF has ever used. These give details telling where it has served, and where it was manufactured.

There are also a trio of books by Oliver Clutton called 'Footprints in the Sands of Time', detailing which camps RAF prisoners of war were sent to during WW2, in Germany or other countries. The book says if they were shot down and on the run, giving details of those who evaded capture and made it back to England. If your relative was in the Far East, and unfortunate enough to be a prisoner of the Japanese, records do survive which help you find out what happened to them. These can be very harrowing and you need to steel yourself against what results you may find.

The air transport auxiliary included many women with pilots' licences, and many who had engineering training, and who delivered aircraft from the manufacturers to the airfields. They often flew as many as five different aircraft in one day. They were set up to operate from a 'ferry pool', as and when required, one being at Sherbourne in Elmet. Some of these women were qualified to fly 4-engined bombers, and much to the amazement of the RAF per-

sonnel on the airfields, flew these entirely single-handed. Normally they were flown with a crew of seven men! If you want to trace someone who flew in the air transport auxiliary, the Maidenhead Heritage Centre is an excellent centre of expertise to help you. Other women flew specialist flights, by air testing aircraft, and this could sometimes lead to tragedy. 76 Squadron is unique in RAF bomber command, showing one woman among it's 776 men pilots. Dorothy Robson B.Sc who was a bomb site specialist, perished when her Halifax bomber crashed in an air test. Many in the RAF never flew in a 'plane, however all our radar stations were staffed by RAF people, and they also ran the air sea rescue service.

Back now to the Royal Navy, which includes the Wrens and the Merchant Navy. As with the RAF, a lot more detail can be built up, if the name of the ship is known or the type of convoy in which they sailed. Remember that the Navy calls everything a ship, and many of those 'ships' are land based. These are referred to as 'stone frigates' by them. Even a block of offices in the Navy would be called HMS something or other. Portsmouth barracks, for example, is HMS Victory 5. A lot of naval staff did as important work, as those who were at sea. For example, many of those who broke the Enigma code at Bletchley Park were Wrens. We can use the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website to help a search, as in a lot of cases, names of ships are shown, possibly specifying the ship in which your relative might have sailed. Once you have that, you can go to the File Index at Kew, and try Adm 1, which is in date order. For example, by trying Able Seaman Jack Sim, he is found on the log of HMS Unrivalled or P45, which was the submarine on which he died. The submarine set course for Malta, as a member of the guns crew, was seriously injured in the abdomen. HMS Unrivalled had surfaced to try to sink a freighter which was carrying supplies to North Africa. When the freighter fought back, Able Seaman Sim was hit by a cannon shell and he died. He was buried at sea.

HMS Bryony is unusual, because it was sunk before being commissioned. It had just been completed in Belfast, when German bombers raided the ship builders, Harland and Wolf. The oil fuel on another boat was set on fire, and this drifted down to HMS Bryony, and burnt her out. She was sunk at her moorings before she was commissioned. The Navy didn't give up so easily - they simply rebuilt her.

Much of what the Navy did, was the critical job of ensuring that food and supplies got to Britain from the USA, and other parts of the world. The Merchant Navy, and ships which had escaped from Europe, along with ships from the USA, were involved here. Records of convoys are kept at Kew, and there is a rapid card index finder in the research room. An example of one of these convoys is Slow Convoy11 (SC11), which Jack Perfect's aircraft was covering. They were crossing the Atlantic at about 6 miles an hour, and in 1940 we had very few naval escort vessels, such as destroyers and frigates, to do the job.

Accordingly the convoys were taking a heavy pounding then, from German aircraft, submarines and U-boats.

It sounds unlikely that shipping was being sunk by guided missiles in WW2, but it is quite true. The Germans had developed them for use against shipping, some were called the Fritz X, others the Hand shol 293. The British transport ship SS Runner, was lost to a guided missile, being launched by a German bomber, and represented, in a single episode, the largest loss of American lives in the Mediterranean theatre of war, when almost 1200 American troops were killed.

The Royal Navy fought throughout the world during WW2. It is sometimes difficult to see the overall picture of what was happening on a certain day, when looking at an episode concerning a particular ship, boat or convoy, you may be concerned with. Probably the best book was written by German historians, Jurgen Rowher and G. Hummelchen – The Chronology of War at Sea 1939-45. To find details about a merchant seaman or woman, you need to know if they were at sea before 1941, or 1942 and after. Different procedures apply which are detailed in a research guide at the National Archives. Using these guides will enable you to get a merchant seaman's pouch. This will contain an identity card, detailing ships they have sailed on, their next of kin, and what was on those ships.

If you are looking for a lady who was in the Wrens, then the record cards in the ADM 336 series at Kew will give you all the details available. Remember here, that quite bland sounding titles, covered some interesting cases. People employed as code breakers at Bletchley Park, being described as writers, and that will be all you find on their records.

Between Dunkirk and D-day, most of the British Army, the ATS and the Home Guard, were in the UK, while major actions were being fought in Africa, Italy and the Far East. You will need to know the theatre of operations and also the regiment, to find the relevant war diary. Regimental histories are most useful to family historians, while campaign histories are useful to military historians, giving details of tactics. Many regiments who finished up in Germany in 1945, had their histories printed cheaply, by German publishers desperate for work in 1946.

Map references used by the military was a different grid to the ordnance survey grid, overprinted at the time in purple and named the Casiny grid. For details, the larger camps – Catterick, for instance, have large file sequences, which will help you. The National Monument record at Swindon has a series of air photos, covering the entire country. You are able to get copies of German reconnaissance photos, which are even better. Many actual dates of death could be quite vague.

John Frederick Alderson died in May 1940 aged 29 and was a pilot with the 4th battalion Oxon Bucks and buried in Calais. The Alderson family website shows his date of death as between 10 May 1940 and 5 February 1941. After the outbreak of WW2, the 4th battalion joined up with the 2nd battalion Glouces-ter's to hold the town of Casella in France, as part of the defensive screen around Dunkirk, during the evacuation. They placed anti tank guns on the hilltop and barricaded the narrow streets of the town and stopped the panzers tanks entering, but the panzers just bombed the town flat, and bodies were being dug from the ruins months later, hence the vague actual dates of death.

Another, was a Major Christopher Rowland Alderson, of the royal army medi-cal corps, and appearing on a memorial in Poland. He died as a POW, and like many other doctors, stayed behind with the wounded – he could have been injured himself, as 47 is young to die even in prison captivity. He had been awarded a Military Cross and a Military Medal, from earlier service. An-other named Alderson, again from the medical corps, saved two non-swimmers on the Dunkirk beaches. He was killed wading out to a boat from a skip jack or mine sweeper, when the skip jack was sunk by the enemy.

1945 did not end the sacrifice. Sapper Albert Alderton, Royal Engineers, died in Egypt in June 1946, aged 20. The Remember garrison remained in Egypt until the Suez crisis of 1956. In 1946 Britain supplied from there the troops to exercise our mandate in Palestine, which the Palestinians did not find accept-able. There was much fighting with different sections of the population, and many British troops lost their lives, trying to keep the peace.

Gunner Richard Alderson, aged 30, died in September 1947, with the 81st Light Anti-aircraft artillery, who remained on alert while meeting the perceived threat from Russia.

An example of army people who were in the UK in WW2 is the local Anti- air-craft defence in Yorkshire, whose files are kept in file sequences WO166.

Some Home Guard unit's documents survive at the National Archives, but for our area, it will be best to try the local records centre of the WW2 Experience in Horsforth, just outside Leeds.

‘COME TO THE COOKHOUSE DOOR’
(RAT AU VAN ANYONE?) *

Food for soldiers in the WW1 Trenches.

(Thanks to memories from the late Harry Gunns
Reg. No. 187146 Machine Gun Corps

My uncle, Harry Gunns, was born in Stow, Norfolk October 1891, the eldest of four children and, as a railway worker, he was initially in a protected role. Aged 25, and unmarried, Harry joined the newly created Machine Gun Corps in Halifax West Riding, having to have his father’s written permission to do so!

In my last article I said that the ‘Win the War’ Cookery Book was found in his effects at his death in 1974. Much of my research is indebted to this and family word of mouth memories. The standard Army ration pack, containing identical food for every soldier, was not introduced until after the conflict so men carried emergency "iron rations" in a tin – Harry had an old, battered Peak Frean’s tin, courtesy of his Mum!

In 1914 the war department set out its minimum weekly rations for feeding troops although conditions meant that this was immediately and constantly ‘reviewed’. The War Department boast was that troops were well fed.

20 ounces of bread	1/10 gill lime if vegetables not issued
16 ounces of flour instead of above	½ gill of rum
3 ounces of cheese	maximum of 20 ounces of tobacco
5/8 ounces of tea	1/3 chocolate – optional
4 ounces of jam	4 ounces of oatmeal instead of bread
½ ounce of salt	1 pint of porter instead of rum
1/36 ounce of pepper	4 ounces of dried fruit instead of jam
1/20 ounce of mustard	4 ounces of butter/margarine
8 ounces of fresh vegetables or	2 ounces of dried vegetables

The army diet on offer from 1914 had led to problems with men getting skin lesions and suffering from constipation – ‘bunged up’ was the soldiers’ euphemism! Initially, men had received 1 pound of meat and 8 ounces of bread and vegetables daily but, by 1916, this had been considerably reduced to just 6

ounces of bully beef, (which we call corned beef today.)

By the time Harry was mobilised and sent to Northern France food conditions had changed as the German submarine blockade made supplies to the Tommies increasingly difficult..

Cooking over a candle or stove made from a biscuit tin was not unknown as soldiers in the trenches largely fended for themselves with ‘Maconochie’s meat stew and hard biscuits and bread hardly worthy of the name as part of their ‘diet’.

Maconochie’s was an Aberdeen company which manufactured a concoction of fatty meat and vegetables in a very thin gravy. This was hated by all the troops, some calling it a war crime! The other alternative was bully beef but the advice was to pierce the tin before opening it because if the can hissed the meat had ‘gone off’, a frequent occurrence.

The bread, known as K-Brot, was increasingly produced as flour was becoming hard to come by in 1916 so this was made from oats, barley and dried potatoes with even straw being added as the war progressed.

The biscuits were made from salt, flour and water and were so hard they had to be soaked in tea or water first, apparently they were like dog biscuits and you could break a tooth on them very easily as Willie Crossley, Harry's mate, lost his front teeth that way!

Away from the trenches Tommies, who were often paid in local currency, sourced local food and drink from the villages. Impromptu cafes sprung up in front rooms and were very popular serving vin blanc known as plonk with oeuf et frites, (egg and chips!) Only a fraction of men were in the trenches at any one time although it was estimated by the War Department that up to 2 million were in France by 1917.

Food was a little improved in the Field Kitchens away from the front lines as there were more cooks who were shown how to flavour food with nettles, marigolds, dock leaves and wild mushrooms to season the dishes. The influence of the Indian army meant curries were increasingly introduced and their peppers and spices added much more flavour to dishes. Nothing was wasted. Any leftovers were sold to the locals for pigswill and the dripping was saved to use in the manufacture of explosives!

I found this list of dishes but I've to confess that I haven't managed – or wanted - to make any of the dishes, the industrial quantities can be adjusted if you feel brave enough to try.

"Brown Stew"

Ingredients: meat, onions, flour, mixed vegetables, pepper, salt, stock

Bone meat, remove fat, cut into 1oz pieces.

Place 3lb flour, ½oz pepper, ½oz salt in a bowl and mix

Place stock into bottom of cooking vessel and dredge meat in flour

Peel and cut up onions, wash and peel and cut up the mixed vegetables, add onions and vegetables to meat, mix well together and barely cover with stock and place in over to cook.

Stir frequently

Time 2½ to 3 hours

"Potato Pie"

Ingredients: meat, potatoes, onions, pepper, salt, stock

Wash, peel, re-wash potatoes, cut large ones into halves lengthways

Bone meat cutting away fat, if meat is lean cover with slices of fat

Place potatoes in tin dish, peel and cut up onions and sprinkle over the potatoes; add 1½oz pepper and 3oz of salt then pour over a little stock or water

Place dish in oven and turn joint at half time, add stock when necessary

Time 15 minutes to each lb of meat

"Sea Pie"

Ingredients: meat, stock, potatoes, flour, onions, baking powder, mixed vegetables, dripping, pepper, cold water

Cut meat in cubes, taking excess fat.

Wash, peel, re-wash potatoes.

Peel and wash mixed vegetables.

Peel and cut up onions.

Place a small quantity of stock in cooking vessel

Place in meat, mixed vegetables, onions, potatoes on top, season with pepper & salt.

Barely cover with stock then cover with paste made as for meat pie.

Boil for 2½ to 3 hours, or they may be steamed

"Curried Cod"

Clean and cut up cod and cut into 4oz steaks

Place in cooking vessel and cover with water and cook until done, when done strain off water, keeping sufficient of the water that the fish has been boiled in

Place flour, pepper, salt and curry powder in mixing bowl and mix well together

Add sufficient of the water to make into this paste, bring fish stock to the boil

Add thickening, cook for about 30 mins

Pour into dishes over cod and serve hot

“Milk Biscuit Pudding” (feeds 100 men)

Ingredients: biscuits (15lb), milk (3lb or 3 tins), sugar (5lb), currants (4lb), spice (1 packet), candied peel (4oz)

Soak biscuits until soft, about 3 hours in cold water

Wash and pick over the currants, cut up peel finely

Place biscuits, sugar and currants into baking dishes

Add milk and mix well together with spice & peel and place in oven till cooked.

Time 1 hour.

Here we have makeshift stoves made from tins, enriched tinned milk, biscuits that look rather like pan scrubbers, the ubiquitous Maconochie’s stew and, would you believe it, OXO Cubes! Some things stand the test of time.

Finding Harry’s effects was the start of my researching WW1 food for the Tommies, there is so much more to find out but, as the war progressed, soldiers became increasingly resilient and inventive and relied on their own resources to try to improve their diet.

By 1918 restricted diet, the lack of meat, fruit and vegetables leading to vitamin deficiency were causing as many health problems for the army as the increasing list of injuries.

It is especially poignant in 2016 to remember, 100 years ago, the 141 days of the Battle of the Somme and give a thought to all those who gave their lives, especially the local Pals Battalions. I hope you find a 'flavour' of that time within my article.

Margaret E. Williams
(Mem.No. 1812)

* Rat au Van. It's said that the real truth lies in comedy. Anyone who has watched the final episode of Blackadder cannot fail to be moved by it.

From an earlier episode, referring to the cut in meat ration, Baldrick describes the meat available to troops in the trenches as rat au van – rat that has been run over by a van!*

Hope Baptist Church and the Reverend Fawcett

Hope Baptist Church in Hebden Bridge is working on its heritage and archive and next year (2017) it will be 200 years since Dr. Rev Fawcett died, who was a 'celebrity' in his day and he came to the notice of George III.

Hebden Bridge Local History Society are hoping to mark the anniversary of his death and include those who are interested in the Fawcett family surname or the Reverend Fawcett himself.

The Society have talks, walks and places to visit planned, but if you would like to get involved or are interested in the Fawcett family, then please contact Diana Monahan, the Secretary of Hebden Bridge Local History Society.
Email: secretary@hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk.

October Talk ~ The Log Book of the Journey to Australia in 1854
by Ruth Nettleton

Much was happening in England in the 1840's. Queen Victoria marries Albert. The Penny Post is initiated and the Rochdale Co-op is formed. In 1845 the potato blight sent many Irish poor to the USA, to escape famine in Ireland. The Corn Laws (designed to keep corn prices high for landowners), were making the price of bread unaffordable for many. The Laws were repealed in 1847, as many were near to starvation. In 1847, the Factory Act (brought in by Todmorden's John Fielden and Bradford's Richard Oastler amongst others), limited 13 – 18 year olds to a 10 hour working day. In 1848, the French Republic was proclaimed. In 1849, there was a great cholera epidemic in our area, and in 1850, the submarine telegraph between England and France was introduced.

Meanwhile, anyone committing a crime could be deported, initially to Bermuda in the Caribbean, but when the American colonies became independent, then Australia was used instead. Between 1788 – 1830, 77,000 people went there – 63,000 convicts and 14,000 free people. Unfortunately, census records of the time were destroyed and only shipping returns are available to research. At that time, nobody wanted to be seen to be descended from a convict, but 200 years later, everyone is proud to be a descendant of an original settler, convict or not. In 1851, there was a gold rush and by 1861, 538,000 immigrants had gone there, many of whom were Chinese.

In 2016, the Speaker talked to the Society about some of her own ancestors going to Melbourne in 1854 – the Nettleton family. As a result of various enquiries she had made, a lot of people contacted her and she could tell from Census information, that many people from the same streets as her ancestor Peter Nettleton, living in Ossett at the time, had set off for a new life in Australia. One of these families groups were the Pickersgills. Benjamin Pickersgill is described in the 1851 Census as the Registrar of Births and Deaths, and the Guide Beating the Bounds. In 1854, his son Edwin aged 23 a bookkeeper and married to Anne formerly Glover, along with his brother-in-law James Glover and his wife and family, decided to go to Australia.

In 1849, the California gold rush had sparked a shipping boom in the shipbuilding industry in the maritime provinces of North America. In 1852, James Baines, the son of a Liverpool widow who ran a sweet shop, purchased the Marco Polo a clipper, for his Black Ball Line, from Donald Mackay a shipbuilder of Boston, Massachusetts, for the Australia run. The Marco Polo sailed with 900 passengers and 60 crew, reaching Melbourne 68 days later. She completed the round trip in 152 days, astounding owner James Baines, who ordered a further four ships from Donald Mackay. These were the Lightening, the James Baines, the Donald Mackay and the Oliver Lang. Newspapers of the times advertised the booking of passages, at 17 guineas upwards, from agents operating in main towns locally. The White Ball line landed passengers at the new wharfs at Melbourne, Sydney, Geelong, Adelaide and Moreton, on a very regular service. In

1854, the numbers emigrating were immense, records showing 32 ships leaving Liverpool bound for the United States, 6 for Canada and 12 for Australia, all carrying many thousands of English, Scottish and Irish passengers, along with others from further afield.

The first hurdle was getting to Liverpool. The first steam railway line was from Liverpool to Manchester, opened in 1830. A timetable, published in 1841 by Nicholson and Wilson of Halifax, showed the route of the journey, taken in a great loop from Leeds to Manchester. There were 9 trains every day, taking 2hrs and 13 mins to get to the destination. These travelled from Leeds, Normanton, Wakefield, Horbury, Thornhill (Dewsbury), Cooper Bridge, Brighouse, Elland, Sowerby Bridge, Hebden Bridge, Todmorden, Littleborough, Rochdale to Manchester. The Leeds to Manchester meets trains from Sheffield, York, Liverpool, Bolton and Lancaster. Luggage could be taken on free of charge – limits were in First Class up to 112lbs, Second Class 60lbs, and in an open wagon upto 40lbs. Any excess charge for a distance less than 30 miles was a farthing per pound, over 30 miles was a halfpenny per pound. The railway company's servants were not allowed to porter wagonette passengers, who must be at the booking office ten minutes before departure, or they cannot be booked onto the train. Gentlemen's horses and carriages must be at the station 15 minutes before departure. Passengers were requested to see their own luggage on and off the carriages. The company were not responsible for any luggage or things that had not been paid for. Gratuities were not to be given to any company employees and smoking was strictly prohibited on company premises. 1841 was not so very different to today.

What would you need to take, to start your new life? Basic cooking equipment, like an old fashioned iron pan, a kettle, blankets and basic food, probably a Xmas cake and piece of ham, both of which would keep for a length of time. Edwin Pickersgill writes in his log book, commenting on life on board during their journey on the Oliver Lang, belonging to the James Baines Company, sailing out of Liverpool for Australia in 1854:-

"**Wednesday 28 June 1854** - This day will not be so soon forgotten by the passengers on board our ship, it be the day we set sail out at noon for the Antipodes of Australia. The weather is fine. The steam tug taking us right to within sight of the coast of Ireland, after that we lost sight of all land. **Thursday** - Fine weather all day. Beginning to become quite squally and in the middle of the night, the vessel, then being in the Irish Channel, met very rough sea, making her reel again and creek all night, most awful. Nobody can imagine except them that have been on board a ship. We never slept a wink that night until 4 in the morning. It was just as though our berths were being pulled to pieces. The tug left us at 4 in the afternoon, where we were left to ourselves on the stormy ocean. Two boys who had stowed away in the hold, were sent back to Liverpool. **Friday** - Got up at 7 and began to be seasick. James (brother-in-law) and Anne his wife, and Adela their daughter, were all the same for the day."

No land to be seen now as they were clear of the Irish Channel and the ship was doing 10 – 15 knots. When they got to Australia, Anne gave birth to another child, so she must have been 3 or 4 months pregnant at this time.

"This day sets in very stormy and the waves run to a great height and the vessel lurches a lot. **Sunday** - Had to get up at 6 to get my share of the water or do without. Prayers were read and singing commenced at 11am in the between decks, it being too rough to have the service on deck. Singing sounded uncommon good. **Monday** - I will give you an account of our ship and the passengers and the mode of living on board. Water is given out at 6am and breakfast follows at 8.30, when coffee is brought out to the table in tin dishes, one pint for each adult, enough as the coffee was roasted or burnt by the cook. Then come the nice hard biscuits which are like chewing slate from the roof or flags from the pavement", (and he hopes he won't lose his teeth.)

There are about 630 on board, passengers of all nationalities and crew included. They dine at 2pm, and had a roasted joint once a week. The food over a week had been boiled salt beef and pork, pea soup and boiled pork, and preserved meat and soups as they called beef preserve, and a homely stew and sometimes a raisin pudding made with suet. They then didn't need the biscuits. They formed themselves into a mess of about 12 and managed better then, although there were many inconveniences to put up with – not like being at home. The doctor who was on board was 23, but only looked like a child of 16, Edwin complained, although he was only 23 himself.

"The captain and first mate are good sorts, but I would never advise anyone I knew to travel on a long voyage by sea. If they do, they should be prepared for the worst. Meat is plentiful enough, but is so tough and salty, that my mouth is quite sore chewing it. I should advise going on a small vessel with just a few passengers, not a crowded ship such as ours, and they would then find more comfort. We expect to make a fast sail of about 70 days and beat the Lightening's run of about the same. There is a bet of £600 on it, so I hope we shall and if I come back again, I shall travel First Class. The day is fine, and my wife and Adela are better, and we have seen porpoises.

" **Wednesday** - A change of wind for the better, although it teems with rain. The wind is awful, making the mast stagger and the sails fly, with a noise like thunder. All hands on deck at 10 and the sails let loose, so we fly with the wind, going at 17-19 miles an hour till 4 in the morning, then slackening to 10 miles. Went on deck to watch the sailors, but it rains in torrents. The wind broke one of the thick chains, which crashed onto the deck, striking fire from the boards where I stood. **Thursday** - Calmer this morning, sea water dark green. At 6 we passed another ship, about 100 yards away. Seems to be no damage from last night and we all feel much better, although many haven't felt well since leaving Liverpool. **Friday** - Fine today. We spoke to a French ship, which was a grand sight. The moon must be at full now, as it shines across the water most beautiful, and seems much larger than it does at home. Anne is now quite recovered and Adela also.

Sunday - Today is uncommonly warm and we are near 1500 miles from home and 36 miles from Madeira. I have had to change my brown mixture trousers for my white drills, as it's so much hotter here than Ossett. I do not know how hot it will be when we reach 'the line' (the equator). Prayers are on deck this morning, but no singing or preaching. We are doing better now we are in a seafaring routine and eating well. Today we had an uncommon good bald head (raisin pudding) for dinner, which my dear lass made for our mess, she understanding the job best. Some of them make sore looking puddings that you wouldn't fancy much. We have some well-to-do people in our cabin, which I think should have stayed at home. Many have rings on their fingers, unlike us from Ossett. There are many children on board and many old people up to about 70years, going to sons and daughters in Australia. We sit out on deck in the evening and hear some stunning tales. Most intend getting their hands dirty at the diggings (presumably gold prospecting). Some wouldn't know a mattock (a hand pickaxe), let alone the handling of it." (Edwin was a bookkeeper and had never got his hands dirty working, either.) "I told some of you I intended giving it a try. Life at sea is an ideal life, as a passenger mind not a sailor. Sailors have plenty of hard work to do, dangerous work too. The other evening, four of the poor fellas were perched 25 yards up on the fore-mast with the sea rolling and the wind roaring. Most of us wouldn't attempt it in the calm, let alone in a storm. We passengers just have to think of our meals. After that we go on deck to smoke and chat. Some give us a song and are very good too. With so many on board, there are different languages and tongues, scarce four who come from the same place or country. **Monday** - Fine again today. Only a few porpoises to be seen. My dear wife has quite recovered and has sewed for part of the day and made a raisin pie and a rasp-berry cake for tea. Their preserve jam is very good and pickles excellent. The baker bakes us soft bread twice a week now, which lasts us every meal and goes down well. We are all in better health now, than we were in Ossett and are thinner also. We are in good spirits after hearing good things of Australia. **Wednesday** - Nothing fresh today except at night we saw the sea in flames about 10 yards away. Maybe it's some kind of insect. Some say it's phos-phates in the water. The sailors caught a decent sized shark measuring 5ft and being about 3years old according to its teeth. It looked splendid swim-ming round the ship changing from dark and light green and blue. The pilot fish which are small and striped were with it. I cut off a bit of the fin to save. Tonight they have caught another shark about the same size and the sailors cooked them. They are not bad to eat but a bit strong and stringy. They weighed heavy and a great piece of wood was rammed in the mouth as it could have snapped off a man's arm or leg in a twinkling. **Saturday** - Going fast at 18 knots today. Twenty five of us had a shower bath when salt water was pumped on top of us outside. **Sunday** - Today is wet and drizzly and I had another shower as it's very cooling. We commenced talking to a ship about 2 miles from us with flags of all colours, and they hoisted the Union flag. She was the Joseph Fletcher of London bound for Auckland, New Zealand and was 34 days out. While the Doctor read prayers, they caught another shark but it slipped the hook and got away. Dead calm now, and at sunset the

heavens were beautiful, the finest sight I've ever seen. **Monday** - At dinner-time the Captain and First Mate had a boat lowered and took a few ladies for a row round the ship. They were all first class passengers. **Sunday** - The Doctor flogged one of the stowaway boys for disobeying him. We all hooted him as he's a nasty, low-livered, mean fellow who nobody likes. **Monday** - All the boxes were brought from the hold and checked. Ours were none the worse, and were put back then. I gave one of the sailors some grog and surprisingly, found he knew my uncles, Joe Robinson and Peter Dawson of Grimsby. Some of the sailors used to work on the barges up and down the Calder at Horbury Bridge. **Tuesday** - The sailors came on deck dressed as donkeys, to let the captain know that Neptune would be coming soon. I think we shall have a spree when we cross the line. **Thursday** - Tonight, Neptune came on board to see if any of his children were there and was told there were some. He asked if all was well and was told it was. He left and said he would see us in the morning. Then a barrel of tar was lighted, being called Neptune's Chariot and set off from the boat. We could see it 2miles away, a beautiful sight. **Friday** - Sailors are getting ready for Neptune coming on board. They have razors about a yard long to shave 12 or so crew who had never crossed the line before. They took down a sail, tying it into a reservoir shape about 3 by 4 yards and 1 and ¾ yards deep and filled with water. They then tie a handkerchief over the eyes of the new sailors and ask their names and where they are from. Whilst they answer, they pop a tar brush full of tar into their mouths, tar their chins, then shave them with the large razors and topple them backwards into the reservoir, keeping them under till they nearly drown. Meanwhile Neptune and his wife arrive on an eight-wheeled carriage made from 2 cannon carriages minus the guns. They sit on the carriage pulled by two sailors dressed as polar bears. Neptune sits in state with a sailor dressed as a woman to oversee the shaving. That done, the doctor gives them a pill which they soon splutter out. A bottle is put under their nose, with pins which prick up the nose, but they can't see for the blindfold, and once more toppled backwards into the water. The sailors take a collection from the passengers and get about £8 or £10. We cross the line about 12.30. During the next three weeks we are becalmed, then have raging storms and plenty of snow. After that it's due east for us and after 13 weeks and 20,000 miles, land is sighted. **Sunday** - Up at 4, packing our things ready for landing on the shores of Australia. Some have lost some of their boxes, but ours are safe and sound. We anchored in the harbour of Geelong and feel thankful to tread on land again. Brother-in-law James and I find storage for our luggage overnight for 7 shillings and stay with our cousin Benjamin at Mr Fosters this night. We will take a house tomorrow. Houses in Geelong are built with wood and have only 2 rooms on the ground floor and no fire side."

Cousin Benjamin Wilson was the son of John and Anne Wilson who sailed with his brother Henry to Australia on 8 March 1849.

So this was the tale of the people from Dale Street in Ossett who settled in Australia and made a new life for themselves.

Project Update.

Warley Town Burial Registers.
Thanks to the sterling efforts of our Transcription Team, we have completed the project on the Warley Town Burials in record time - just over a month !!

Your committee has agreed how to publish the results, which are a little different from the normal ones, because they have been done at the request of the Warley Community Association. We will be making this information available to you, free of charge, via the Transcription Index on the website www.cfhsweb.com. At a later date, once we have a little more data from other projects, we will publish these records generally on a CD.

We originally started the project to help them in early 2013, but, for a number of reasons, the project stalled after about 25% of the work had been completed. This has been available on our Research Room databases since that time. All the available data (over 4000 names) is now on the Research Room database & can be viewed there.

Heywood URC, Northowram - BDs.
Thanks to the hard work & generosity of members of the congregation at this Northowram Chapel, we have been able to do some more, interesting, transcriptions.

These are an assortment of registers for this chapel, one of the more fascinating ones being the 19th Century Grave Book. These are individual pages in a book, giving the names & relationships of the people buried in each grave, together with ownership details.

The Burial Registers are in 2 different formats, which made the task of transcribing them more varied. The baptisms take a more informal format, but contain plenty of relevant information for each child. The time period covered is from the mid-1800s up to the early 1950s.

Our Transcription team have excelled themselves on this project & completed, in under 3 weeks, what we expected to take 2-3 months. As you will have seen from the March Newsletter the information from this project is being made available to members through the Transcription Index facility on our website www.cfhsweb.com

What next ?
By the time you read this, we hope to have concluded discussions with the West Yorkshire Archive Service on our next project, which promises to look at some records not normally available to genealogists in the mainstream. So watch out on our website & on our monthly newsletters for more information.

As always, we owe a great debt to members who have worked tirelessly to transcribe & validate information that helps any family historian in their quest for their family trees. If you would like to join the team for the current & future projects, contact me at projects@cfhsweb.com or on the 'phone on 01484-718576.

Peter Lord - Project Coordinator.

New Members' Interests

Surname	Location	County	Known from	Known to	Wanted from	Wanted to	Code
MITCHELL	HEPTONSTALL	WRY	1700	1750	1660	1700	3428
MITCHELL	STANSFIELD	WRY	1700	1750	1660	1700	3428
MITCHELL	WADSWORTH	WRY	1700	1750	1660	1700	3428
MITCHELL	HUNDERSFIELD	LAN	1750	1840	1840	1900	3428

3428. Mr. G Mitchell. gmitch@blueyonder.co.uk

More Names

Askwith	Ash tree wood
Aspinall	Spring, among aspen trees
Bottomley	Field in the (valley) bottom
Gledhill	Hill of the kites (the bird)
Greenwood	Green wood
Greenhow(e) or **Greenough**	Green hill
Murgatroyd	Clearing by the moor gate (gate = gat, a way, not a gate)
Ridding	Clearing
Riley	Field of rye
Royd	Clearing
Suttil or **Soothill**	Hill where charcoal was burnt or possibly South hill
Sutcliffe	Southern cliff
Sunderland	Southern land or separate land

CALDERDALE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY
Incorporating Halifax and District

Application for Membership Renewal
(For 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018)

Application can be made in either two ways:
Over the Internet from the site www.genfair.com
By completing the form below and posting to the Treasurer

NAME……TEL.No……

ADDRESSS……..

……

POST CODE……

E-MAIL ADDRESS……

(Existing) MEMBERSHIP NUMBER……..

I/We enclose cheque/P.O. for £……
(Made payable to CALDERDALE F.H.S.)

FEES:

Individual	Family
UK MEMBERSHIP £10.00	UK MEMBERSHIP £12.00
OVERSEAS £15.00 (Incl. Air Mail)	OVERSEAS £17.00 (Incl. Air Mail)
INTERNET £5.50	INTERNET £7.50

Please note that INTERNET membership provides access to the Quarterly Magazine and all other information from our Members Website only, not on paper. Overseas members not renewing via Genfair should make payments in Sterling.

Please return to:
MR P LORD, TREASURER C.F.H.S
288, HALIFAX ROAD,
HOVE EDGE,
BRIGHOUSE.
HD6 2PB

For those living in West Yorkshire, please indicate whether you intend to attend our monthly meetings by deleting as appropriate: YES / NO

Data Protection Act
As a “Not for Profit” organization, we are not required to “notify” the Data Protection Authorities in the UK regarding the holding of personal data. However, you should know that we hold on the Society’s computer the personal data that you provide us. Furthermore, we make this information available to other members for the purposes of following up “Members Interests”. As part of this, those details are posted on our “Members Only” website, which, under certain circumstances, can be accessed by non members. If you either do not want us to hold your details on our computer and/or you do not want your details made available to other members as described above, please contact our Membership Secretary by letter or by e-mail at membsec@cfhsweb.co.uk

APPLICATION RECEIVED……..

RECEIPT No……..

Calderdale FHS Annual General Meeting - Thursday 27th. April 2017 at 7.30 pm at the North Bridge Leisure Centre, Halifax.

Agenda & Notes

Announcement of Nominations and Citations & distribution of voting papers for the Members' Sutcliffe Award

1. Chairman’s Report
2. Secretary's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Computer Secruity Report
5. Collection of voting papers for the Members Sutcliffe Award
6. Election of Officers & Committee
7. Election of Auditors
8. Presentation of the Sucliffe Award.
9. Presentation / Announcement of Margaret Walker Award.
10. Any Other Business

Please bring this Agenda to the AGM

Nomination Paper for the Members' Sutcliffe Award 2017

Every year, the Society makes a presentation of 2 annual awards to Members who have made an outstanding contribution to the Society over the previous 12 months. These are entitled **The Sutcliffe Awards**, in recognition of the work carried out by John & Joyce Sutcliffe over many years.

The Committee Sutcliffe Award is awarded by the Committee to the Away Member who they feel has made such a contribution during the year.

The Members' Sutcliffe Award is awarded to any Society Member, nominated by any other member, and voted on at the AGM by all members present.

This nomination paper may be completed, signed by the submitting member & returned to The Secretary by 7.30pm. Thursday 27th. April 2017. Please note that only one nomination may be made by any one member.

* * * * * * * *

I nominate ..... **to be considered for the award of the 2017 Members' Sutcliffe Award, for the following reasons:**

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Signed: .....**Date :**.....

(Please print your name here).....

Please return this nomination form to Margaret Smith, 4,Rawson Avenue, Halifax. HX3 0JP to arrive before Thursday 27th. April 2017

Form for nominations for Committee Member(s) is overleaf.

CFHS - 2017/2018 Committee Nomination

Please print the name of the nominee in the space provided. Please return this nomination paper to the Secretary: Margaret Smith, 4, Rawson Avenue, Halifax. HX3 0JP, before Thursday 27th. April 2017

I nominate ..... for election to the CFHS Committee for the year 2017/2018.

Signed .....

Member's name .....

Date .....

Your Personal Data - how is it protected ?

This might sound a very boring subject, but it is becoming more & more important that any information that anyone holds on an individual is protected as securely as possible.

We have all read about people being "scammed" by unscrupulous individuals and also of people whose personal computers have been "invaded" or corrupted. Whilst it is the responsibility of each person to look after their own computer security, in this modern world we inevitably have to give out our personal details to more & more organisations. Those organisations have a legal responsibility to keep anything that can identify you safe & secure.

Our Family History Society is no different. To operate efficiently, we have to hold pieces of information about all our members, and this is done on computers run by the various officers. Fraudsters, hackers & firms wanting to target you with unwanted goods are always eager to get any personal information that they can to contact you & you have a right to expect those holding such information to look after it.

What do we mean by "personal data" ? The items that we hold for every member, that we regard as "personal", are :-

- Surname, initial & title
- Postal Address
- Telephone No.
- E-Mail address

Other information, such as Membership Type, Date joining the Society etc. we do not regard as "personal" because it isn't thought to be able to identify you individually. Nevertheless, all information about you is held in a single database called "Members' Database"

In the past, we have taken precautions to guard your data by restricting it to a very few computers & passwording the file(s) that hold it. However, in the light of recent incidents where data has been "lost" & also the increasingly more sophisticated ways in which passwords can be broken, we have been reviewing how we handle your data.

Our 3 main priorities are :-

⇒ To ensure that your personal data is secure & not passed to anyone who shouldn't have it.

⇒ To protect the Society from legal action, if, for any reason, any data does "escape" from our systems.

⇒ To make sure that our systems are sufficiently robust & well documented, so that any change of officer does not result a breach in our data protection.

How have we changed ?

Firstly, we continue to look after your personal data, by restricting access to the passworded Members' Database to 2 officers, even though that database is also held elsewhere for security. To protect it, we have in place regular back-up procedures to ensure that any corruption or material lost is recoverable. So in the event of the Membership Secretary's computer breaking down, we can always recover the data that she holds. Indeed, even if her house burns down, we still have copies elsewhere, although we sincerely hope that we will never have to prove it !!!

Having various back-ups distributed for safe keeping can actually act as a greater risk to security, because the more copies there are, the more chance there is of them being stolen. Consequently, we have now purchased some "encryption" software, which "scrambles" the data on the file, so that no-one can read it, other than those who have the "key".

This "key" is only held by the 2 officers with permission to access the data.

As well as the Membership Secretary, a 2nd person is involved, in case of the hypothetical "house burning down". This method is regarded within the IT industry as the most secure method of all for keeping data safe. It has the added advantage that we can happily send a copy of the file elsewhere for "back-up" purposes, because the person holding the back-up does not have the "key" & therefore can't see what is on the file.

An additional layer of protection is that, even within the encryption, the Members' Database is, itself, passworded.

As you are aware, we have an officer, Ann Wilkinson, who is the Computer Auditor. She has extended her responsibilities to include how personal & sensitive data is held & so she will report on this to the AGM every year. To make sure that this is a continuous process & is not compromised by any change of officer within the Society, Ann has been involved in the development of a "Data Security" policy which has been approved by your Committee & is now held as a formal Society document by the Secretary.

This Policy is available for any member to see. Should you wish to do so, please contact Margaret Smith at secretary@cfhsweb.com & she will send you a copy.

This may all seem very "dry", but Cyber Security is a hot topic at the moment & only a month or so ago a Historic Society was fined £500 for allowing personal details of its benefactors to be stolen & were ruled to be negligent in their protection of it.

Finally, as I am sure you are all aware, we make it clear when anyone joins our Society that we hold their personal details on computer. This assertion is repeated on page 4 of every issue of the Scrivener.

I hope that you feel that the actions described above will keep any data we have about you a secure as we possibly can. If you have any specific queries on this, please feel free to raise them with the Systems Coordinator, at **systems@cfhsweb.com**

Peter Lord - Systems Coordinator.

Media Release – The Journal of Genealogy & Family History

Launching in April 2017, the new Journal of Genealogy and Family History (JGFH) will address the current need for a high quality, peer reviewed publication, covering broad scholarly research in genealogy and family history in a 21st century online format. The journal will be offered to readers and contributors for free, on an open-access, non-commercial basis, with content available under a Creative Commons Attribution License. The scope of the journal will include any field or academic discipline associated with genealogy or family history research such as heraldry, demography, education and record conservation.

Articles will offer the reader insights into current thinking and practice and provide an outlet for theoretical and speculative ideas within genealogy and family history. Topics will be wide ranging, and include for example:

- *Family histories which demonstrate new and innovative approaches and analytic techniques;*
- *Locational studies*
- *The use of new technologies*
- *Software applications and databases*
- *The use of DNA analyses to better understand kinship*
- *Ancestry and populations*
- *Micro histories which may focus on personal, local, community and social histories.*
- *Ethical and legal issues surrounding the practice of genealogy*

The journal will attract authors from around the world who wish to have their genealogical and family history work published in a credible form and made available to anyone who chooses to read it. All articles submitted for publication will undergo anonymous peer review, which will provide a rigorous and robust process of close scrutiny.

The Editor, Jessica Feinstein, says: "I am very excited to be part of the great team involved in this venture, and look forward to enabling authors in our field to publish academic articles that will advance genealogical research in many areas."

The editorial board will include prominent individuals from within the field of genealogy and family history as well as associated disciplines. The Journal of Genealogy and Family History is registered at the British Library with ISSN 2399-2964.

The journal was initiated and designed by the Register of Qualified Genealogists and will be published via their website at: http://www.qualifiedgenealogists.org/jgfh

For further information please contact the Editor, Jessica Feinstein by email or telephone: editor@qualifiedgenealogists.org & 01235 531500 (evenings only).

The Register of Qualified Genealogists will be at Who Do You Think You Are Live, Birmingham NEC from Thursday 6 – Saturday 8 April 2017 on table number 2. Come and find us for a chat and to see a preview of the first issue.....

http://www.whodoyouthinkyouarelive.com/

A NEW BOOK ON SOUTH PENNINE HISTORY

PRE-PUBLICATION OFFER

HISTORY IN THE SOUTH PENNINES: THE LEGACY OF ALAN PETFORD

EDITED BY NIGEL SMITH

This is no ordinary local history book. It is the first publication for many years to cover aspects of the history of various localities across the South Pennines, rather than focusing on the history of a specific area. Produced by the South Pennine History Group as a memorial volume for the late Alan Petford, a gifted local history lecturer, it presents the results of new research by some of the many people that he inspired.

This book will appeal to all those who wish to understand more about the events and processes that helped form the man-made landscape of the South Pennines. Ranging in time from the 1500s to the 1900s, these essays by a group of expert authors focus on the Calder Valley, Marsden, Saddleworth and Shipley. Topics include the process of settlement expansion and how townships defined and maintained their boundaries. The changing population of Halifax parish is examined during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries while studies in building history explore construction agreements and the design and function of inns and alehouses. The way that people lived is brought to life through analyses of wills and inventories in three areas, shedding light on the dual economy of farming and textiles. The impact of nineteenth-century industrial growth on the landscape includes studies on a moorland dam and a planned railway, while analyses of literary output bring to life contemporary perceptions.

All proceeds from this book will go to the Alan Petford Memorial Fund, set up to help those wishing to research and promote the study of local history in the South Pennines.

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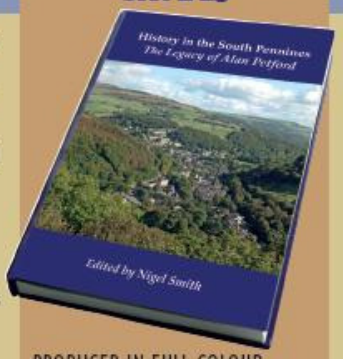

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Publication will be in Spring 2017.
A more precise date will be emailed to subscribers in April 2017

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POST BAG

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Gaukroger was here …...

On reading the autumn Scrivener I came across the article about names in particular Gaukroger. As I was born a Gaukroger I have some interest. I have heard some years ago that it had derived from the French for a left handed spear thrower, perhaps we came over with the Norman's! I believe the authority on Yorkshire surnames is Dr. George Redmond.
Rita Wade

We have had a talk by George Redmond many years ago and he is indeed an authority on Yorkshire names.
Susan Lord

Scrivener No 122, March2008 has an article on Gaukroger by Brian Howson, giving references to works by Dr. George Redmans. He suggests an alternative derivation - Gauk-rocher, gauk being a cuckoo, and rocher, a rock or crag.
Editor

Dear Editor

I would just like to thank you for your piece about the surname Gawkroger.

In my family tree I have an ancestor named Mary Gaukroger born in Halifax who went on to be married to John Blagbrough in 1878. It was fascinating reading about the "left-handed roger" Thank you for your piece about how this surname originated.

HELP WANTED

I would also like to enquire where Halifax men joined the army in the First World War, please.

Miss CJ Blagbrough (2015)

Stoney Royd

Hi Frances,

For the benefit of those of us who have the misfortune of living outside Yorkshire, would it be possibly to give a little bit of background on Stoney Royd? Where exactly is it, and for what areas of Calderdale are people likely to be buried there?

Thanks,
Jeff

Hello,

Here are a few details (below), taken directly from the Wikipedia website. (See also the article on the next page.)

There are a number of sites on the Internet - just key "Stoney Royd" into Google & a number are displayed.

The cemetery is on Water Lane, which is to the south of Halifax. Come from the station in the direction of Huddersfield &, at the 2nd mini-roundabout, turn left, under the railway bridge. The entrance to the cemetery is 200 yards after the bridge, at the next junction on the right.

It is the main municipal cemetery for Halifax, although smaller ones also still operate within Calderdale (eg Rastrick & Brighouse). Locals like to say that it was the "poor man's" cemetery, all the toffs being buried in Lister Lane (which is now closed). I am happy to say that my great-great-grandfather & many of this family were buried at Lister Lane !!!!

I hope this helps.

Best Wishes,
Peter L.

More on Stoney Royd - Municipal Cemetery for Halifax.

Following the completion of the project to transcribe the Burial Registers for Stoney Royd, the Halifax Municipal Cemetery, we have now produced a CD containing the complete records from 1861 to 1960 which replaces the 4 individual CDs each of which was published at the end of each project stage.

This means that it is now easier to find out all the people in one grave, even when split across the 4 time spans of our 4 project stages. The 4 individual CDs have been withdrawn from sale & have been replaced by the single CD costing £12.00 (or £10.50 as a download from Genfair).

Your Committee decided not to continue beyond 1960, although we do hold the records for up to 1996. So if any member wishes to have details for anyone buried there between 1960 & 1996 & can give the year (or better still exact date) of burial, then contact Susan Lord, our Search Coordinator, at search@cfhsweb.com & she will send you the detail.

One of our members has also pointed out that people living away from Halifax may not know as much as they could about the cemetery itself. So this item gives a bit more information about it - some factual, some hypothesis.

The cemetery is on Water Lane, which is to the south of Halifax. Come from the station in the direction of Huddersfield &, at the 2nd mini-roundabout, turn left, under the railway bridge. The entrance to the cemetery is 200 yards after the bridge, at the next junction on the right.

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Wikipedia has an interesting summary about the cemetery's beginnings, which I give here.

"Stoney (or Stony) Royd Cemetery is a cemetery in Halifax, West Yorkshire, England.

Stoney Royd House was a brick house built for Christopher Rawson, the third son of John Rawson of Bolton "a little before 1764". It was demolished in the second half of the 20th century. One of its original gate lodges remains as part of the cemetery.

In 1860 Halifax Corporation bought the site to turn it into a cemetery. (Also

known as graveyard to some less inelegant people.) Edward Milner won a competition for its design. It opened in 1861, and the northern section was consecrated on 11 September 1862. The southern section was for Nonconformist burials.

Two chapels were built: one each for Church of England and Nonconformist funerals. The Church of England one was a cruciform Gothic Revival building with a tower, broach spire and polygonal apse. In 1973 the Department of the Environment made it a Grade II listed building. In 2007 its roof collapsed in a storm, and Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council obtained listed building consent to demolish it. The tower and spire survive.

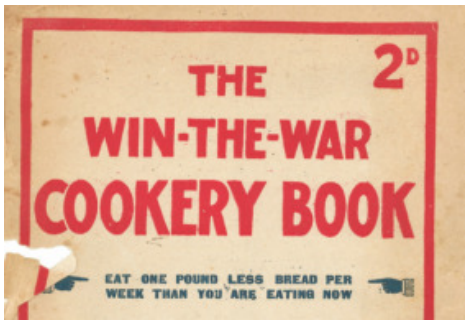
The cemetery contains monuments for 76 war dead, under the care of the Commonwealth War Graves"

Further information is available on the Internet, by going into Google (or any other Search Engine) & keying "Stoney Lane Cemetery".

Peter Lord

‘WHAT’S FOR TEA, MUM?’
HOME COOKING IN WORLD WAR 1

With a lot of interest in World War 1 recently, you may be interested in some original recipes I found from that era and what was done with them with a class of 32 Year 6 children.



Reproduced from War Archives

World War 1 was the half term topic for my class of 32 ‘eager’ Year 6 pupils in 2008.

It was a collective decision by all of us to find out what life was actually like for the people at home and for the troops.

A small part of our work was life in the home, especially the kitchen. As food is always a popular theme with children, we decided to find recipes used by housewives – (could we use that word today?) – and to publish a book of recipes. I’d forgotten all about this until I came upon a rather dog-eared copy of a menu among my many boxes of teaching artefacts. I then remembered that we decided to make some of the recipes and serve them at Summer Fields War Café we created as a one off.

With much emphasis since 2014 on World War 1 and, especially in 2016, on the Battle of the Somme and the restrictions for people at home, I am reprising our menus, have a go! All the recipes were chosen by the children, that’s my excuse and I’m sticking to it!

Some recipes are surprisingly tasty, others are absolutely awful, you won’t know till you try!

Lots of recipes used leftovers and many of them also contain ingredients that have to be improvised – Crisco?! Fish Sausages anyone!

WAR CAFÉ MENU
Cheese and Lentil Savoury (1916)
Pea Soup (1914)
War Bread (1915)
Saturday Pie (1915)
Brown Stew (1917)
Fish Sausages (1916)
World War 1 'Less' Cake (1918)
Salvation Army Doughnuts (1915)
Potato Biscuits (1914)
Carrot Pudding (1917)

Cheese and Lentil Savoury
Take eight ounces of cheese, five and a half ounces of lentils, three ounces of breadcrumbs, four ounces of onions, one and a half ounces of fat, parsley, salt and pepper.
Wash the lentils; peel and chop the onions and cook them in a little water with the lentils, stirring occasionally. Have the cheese grated; put it into a basin and when the lentils and onions have nearly finished cooking stir them to the cheese and add the breadcrumbs, a tablespoonful of chopped parsley and pepper and salt.

Pea Soup
Made with 1 cup of split peas, onion, carrot and turnip, this soup was very comforting and extremely filling.

War Bread
1 cup rolled oats 1 cup cornmeal 3 cups wholewheat flour 1 tbsp of shortening 1/3 cup honey 1 tbsp salt 3 cups boiling water 1tbsp dry yeast 3 – 4 cups all- purpose flour,
Mix oats, cornmeal, wholewheat flour, shortening, honey and salt. Pour in boiling water, stir till smooth .Cool to lukewarm then sprinkle on yeast, mix in. Stir in flour ½ cup at a time, begin kneading when too stiff to stir, knead for 8-10 minutes. Cover place in warm place for 1 hour till its double its size. Punch down, knead for 30 seconds then cut in 2 balls leave to rest for 3 – 4 minutes. Make into 2 loaves, ut in greased loaf tins, cover and put in warm place until centre of dough rises 1 inch above the pan. Bake 1 hour at 350F.

Saturday Pie
Classic leftover dish with cold meat, mashed potato, onion, carrots and herbs. Mix them all together in a large bowl, add salt to taste. Bake in a moderate oven or fry in slices.

Brown Stew
Meat, onions, flour, mixed veg, pepper, salt, stock
Bone meat, remove fat, cut into 1oz pieces. Place and a half lb (pound) flour, 1/2oz salt, ½ oz pepper, mix. Place stock in bottom of large dish, dredge meat with flour. Peel, wash and cut up onions, mixed veg add these to meat mix together, barely cover with stock, put in oven for 2 and a half– 3 hours. Stir frequently.

Fish Sausages
Fish sausages – lumps of leftover fish mixed with rice and dried herbs, rolled in oats and then fried in lard. The recipe comes from the "Win-the-War Cookery Book",

World War 1 'Less' Cake – Eggless, Milkless, Butterless
1 lb raisins, 2 cups water, 1 cup cold water, 2 cups sugar, ½ cup unmelted lard, 4 cups flour,
1 tsp each of baking soda, cloves, cinnamon, nutmeg, ½ tsp salt. I tsp vanilla
Boil raisins in 2 cups water until plump; remove from stove add cold water, sugar, lard. Sift together and add next 6 ingredients, mix well then add vanilla. Bake in 2 greased and floured loaf pans at 350 degrees for 1 hour.

Salvation Army Doughnuts
4 cups flour, ½ tbsp. butter, ¼ tsp cinnamon, 1 cup sugar, 1 egg 1 and half tsp salt, ¼ grated nutmeg, 4 tsp baking powder, 1 cup milk
Put flour in shallow pan, add salt, baking powder and sugar. Rub in butter with fingertips. Add to well beaten egg and milk, stir thoroughly. Toss on floured board, roll to ¼ inch thickness. Shape, fry and drain.

Potato Biscuits
1 and ¼ cups flour, 2 tbsps shortening, 4 tsps Royal Baking Powder, ¾ cups boiled sweet of white potatoes (mashed), ½ salt, ½ cup milk.
Sift flour, baking powder, salt together. Rub in shortening, potatoes, milk to make a soft dough. Roll out lightly, cut with biscuit cutter. Bake in moderate oven for 15 – 20 minutes.

Carrot Pudding
Mix 1/2lb grated carrot, ½ lb flour, 6oz chopped suet, 4oz currants, 4oz sultanas and 1oz sugar. Add 1 tbsp sherry or brandy. Mix with water, boil for 3 hours

It is important that our young people remain aware of the issues and deprivations their ancestors had to endure. Part of the work we did was to build a 'trench' in class, use drama and song to try to re-create soldiers' everyday lives, then perform 3 shows for parents to showcase our efforts.

My Uncle, Harry Gunns, enlisted in the Machine Gun Corps in 1915, he had a

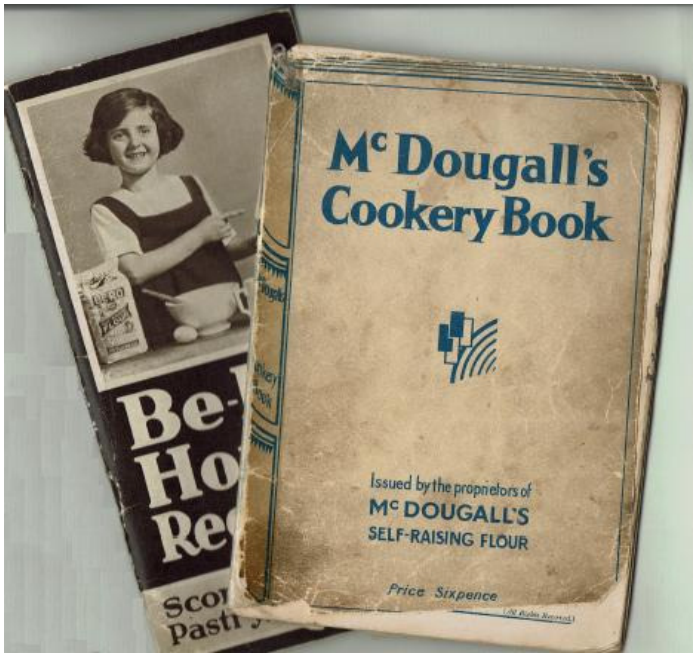
copy of the Trench Cook Book published in 1917 which was found among his effects in 1978. This was a starting point for interest in feeding the soldiers. Next issue I'll will attempt to chronicle the recipes used and the logistics involved in keeping the food warm! Apparently our soldiers were much better fed than those left at home, at least according to the Government!

Enjoy trying the recipes, you may be pleasantly surprised!

Margaret E. Williams
(Mem.No. 1812)

My mum used to make a version of Saturday Pie; she called it Puzzle Pie. It was baked in a pastry base, and filled with a selection of leftovers. We had to guess what had gone into it! This was in the 1940s. It was very tasty.

We also had a leftovers soup, which was horrible!
Editor



Cliff Freer 1919 – 2016, Tasmanian Farmer
By David Walmsley

During the summer, I was sad to hear from a cousin in Australia that my relation Cliff Freer had passed away. Cliff was my second cousin once removed, and I met him just the once, when my wife and I visited Australia in April 2009. Cliff reached the good age of 96, but it is always sad when another relative passes on.

But let me start at the beginning. In my family history research, I had established that my great-grandfather Thomas Walmsley (1846-1883) came from a large family. He was one of nine children of Daniel Walmsley (1811-1854) and Sarah Ingham (1808-1885), and they lived in Mixenden. Over time I discovered what had become of most of Thomas's brothers and sisters, and found that Thomas's sister Susannah (1842-1932) had married a farmer and dairyman called John Freer (1840-1933) from Bingley. My great-grandfather himself married a Freer, John's sister Mary (1843-1919), in a double wedding in Broad Street Chapel, Halifax, on 23 October 1873. In fact the Freer name occurs frequently in the Walmsley family tree; Thomas's eldest son was named Arthur Freer Walmsley, and there was another Freer-Walmsley wedding, as we shall see. There was also the elusive Mary Hannah Freer, whom my mother met many years ago, and whose grave I visited in Hobart. At first I thought she was John and Susannah's daughter; in fact she was their niece, but that is another story.

John and Susannah carried on their dairy business for some years after they married, based at Holdsworth Hall in Halifax (now a hotel). It was said that he embraced modern farming methods, which probably meant mechanisation, and that the milk he sold on his round was the best in the district. But in the late 1870s after the death of John's father they decided to emigrate and seek a better life for themselves. In October 1879 John sailed for New Zealand where he purchased a 100-acre farm at Kaiapoi, about 12 miles from Christchurch. A few months later, Susannah followed with their sons Thomas (5) and Josiah (3)

They spent several years at Kaiapoi, and their third son John Albert was born there, but the land proved to be difficult to farm; it was low-lying and prone to flooding. So after a few years of trying to make a go of things, they decided to move again, and they settled in Tasmania, not far from the town of Burnie on the north coast.

Life must have been hard for the Freers, as the piece of land they bought from the Van Diemen's Land Company was virgin forest, and John and his older sons had to set to and clear it before they could start farming. Their farm was on higher land so floods were no longer a problem, but instead they had to endure fires which more than once destroyed their farm buildings and crops.

But with hard work and God's help they persevered and built a thriving farm which they managed to develop and extend and, eventually, pass on to their sons.

John and Susannah's eldest son, Thomas, died young, but the second son, Josiah, continued the line. In 1911 he married Florence Tearle, and they had five children: two girls Elma Rae (b1913) and Jenny (b 1917), and three boys Bert (b 1911), Lance (b 1915) and Cliff (b1919), the subject of this story.

In researching my Freer relations, I came across a reference to a Freer Farm Campus of the University of Tasmania. It was near to Burnie and the name surely could not be a coincidence, so I emailed the University to ask if there was a connection. I received a very helpful reply from a man called Peter Cocker who, it turned out, not only worked at the University and was writing its history, but was also active in the Burnie Family History Society. My interest in finding out more about my Freer relations grew.

So when my wife and I were planning a holiday in Australia in 2009, I decided that we would include a trip to Tasmania, visit the graves of John and Susannah, and see the land near Burnie where they lived. It was perhaps an unusual decision, as Tasmania is not on the usual tourist routes, but we were very glad we did. Tasmania is a beautiful island with lots of natural scenery, and as we flew in after the short flight from Sydney we looked out over green fields, lakes, rivers and brooding hills.

The capital Hobart is a pretty town. I well remember waking up on our first day in Tasmania to a lovely crisp autumn morning, so much like home after our stopovers in Singapore (very hot) and Sydney (warm) on the way out. We spent a few days in Hobart and visited the grave of another relation Mary Hannah Freer and her cousin George and the house where they lived for many years.

Hobart is home to the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, where we learnt something of the history of Tasmania – not an entirely happy history, it has to be said. In the 19th century, the white settlers (in other words, the English) had a policy to eliminate the native Tasmanian aboriginals, who were unrelated to the aboriginals in the Australian mainland. The last full-blooded native Tasmanian died early in the 20th century, but the settlers also carried off some of the women, and as a result there are still descendants to carry on the line.

We also drove to the Port Arthur penal colony, now a museum, where convicts who had been sentenced to transportation were housed. Standing on a hillside at Port Arthur looking out to sea, it felt like the end of the earth with nothing between there and the Antarctic, although as the guide pointed out, Tasmania is in fact nearer to the equator than to the South Pole. Port Arthur needed no walls or fences to keep the prisoners in, because to get away from the colony

they would have had to cross the “dog line” across a narrow isthmus only a few hundred yards wide, where fierce dogs would deter any escapees.

After a few days in Hobart, we drove north to Burnie on the north coast of Tasmania overlooking the Bass Strait. It was a journey of about 200 miles (Tasmania is small, but not that small!) and there are no motorways. In Burnie, Peter Cocker kindly arranged to meet us and show us around Burnie and out to Mooreville a few miles away where the Freer Farm was. He also took us to the Wivenhoe Cemetery to see the graves of John and Susannah Freer and four of their children.

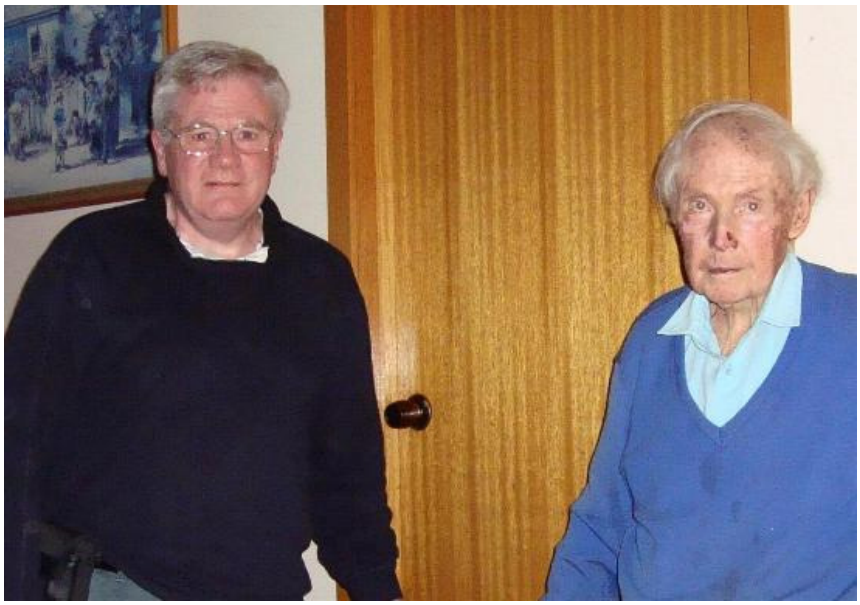
Then Peter sprang his surprise. Would we like to meet the last surviving child, Cliff? Up to this point I had no knowledge of any surviving relatives, so of course I said we would love to, and a meeting was arranged for the following day.

Peter drove us out to Cliff’s house, which turned out to be a small modern building on the land his grandparents had carved from the forest. Cliff was 89 at the time, and I have to say he was not too interested in family history, but he was pleased to meet his relatives from England. We spent an hour or two with him, mostly talking about football (Aussie rules style) and his experiences in the war when he had served with the Royal Australian Navy. He was also intrigued by my name, Walmsley, as his sister Jennie had married a man called Jack Walmsley and he had a photo. Was Jack a relation, Cliff asked? Indeed he was; Jack Walmsley was my father’s first cousin, and so his marriage to Jennie established another link between the Freers and the Walmsleys.

We left Cliff after a couple of hours, promising ourselves that we would return if we visited Australia again. We still hope to go back, but sadly we will not be able to see Cliff again now he is no longer with us. Sad too to note that Cliff never married, and surprisingly nor did his brothers or sisters apart from Jennie who married late in life. So there are no descendants of Josiah’s branch of the Freer family, and none from the eldest son Thomas who never married.

Happily, John and Susannah’s third son, John Albert, did marry and had four children. Two of them, brothers Thomas and Eric (full name Eric Walmsley Freer – the connection again), were still alive at the time of our visit, Thomas in Hobart and Eric in Melbourne, but unfortunately we did not have time to contact them during our visit. Thomas and Eric have since died, at a good age and within a week of each other, leaving large families.

So the Freer-Walmsley connection lives on, and one day soon my wife and I hope to return to Australia and meet our Aussie cousins, descendants of those brave pioneers John Freer and Susannah Walmsley who set out from Halifax to forge a new life on the other side of the world.



David Walmsley and Cliff Freer

I wrote a story about my ancestor Daniel Walmsley which appeared in the March 2014 Scrivener.

I have never found any trace of Thomas's sister Sarah Walmsley, born 3 September 1848. I have found neither marriage nor death record for her, nor any census entry after 1851, so if any reader has any information, please get in touch.

David Walmsley

JOSEPH GREENWOOD (1835-1870)
HELP WANTED

Do you have a Joseph Greenwood on your family tree? If so, please read on.

Our ancestor, Joseph Greenwood was born in Halifax in about 1835, though whether this was the town itself or the wider parish is not known. We know quite a lot about him, but all of it comes from his military records and nothing is known of his family or early life – not even an exact date of birth.

At the age of 19, Joseph enlisted in the East Company's army, sworn in by Lt. Col. Brown in Halifax, on 15 August 1854. He arrived in Warley to begin his basic training four days later. There was no time for second thoughts, though it was not unknown for recruits to disappear between enlistment and attestation. No doubt after they had received the King's shilling!

Joseph's records show that he was a smith by trade, 5ft 5 and five eighths of an inch tall, with grey eyes, brown hair and a sallow complexion. He signed on as an infantryman for ten years and waited for a ship to take him to India. In those days, ships would arrive from the East Indies with cargoes of silks, cottons and spices and return with men and military supplies. It was 13th March, 1855, when he boarded the ship "Kossuth" along with 124 other infantrymen, 2 sappers, 10 women and 6 children.

Those journeys were often unpleasant, with food and water tightly rationed (and severe penalties for taking more than one's fair share). Conditions on board were crowded and smelly. However, the ship arrived safely in Madras on 5 July, 1855. Joseph proceeded to join up with his regiment, the 105th Madras European Light Infantry.

At some point, Joseph met a lady called Charlotte. The pair are thought to have married, probably around 1859, though no trace of a marriage has yet been found. Their first child, William was born in 1860. Rachel arrived in 1861 and our ancestor, Alfred, followed in 1863. These three children were baptised in Trichinopoly, in the Madras Presidency, and Joseph and Charlotte are named as their parents. I visited "Trichy" to search for a marriage for Joseph and Charlotte, but to no avail. This may be because records are patchy and many have disappeared. Three more daughters were born, the youngest, Harriet, in 1868, by which time the family was living in Meerut in Bengal.

It was often said that the life expectancy of a British soldier in India was "two monsoons". By that measure, Joseph did not do too badly. However, he was just 35 years old when he died "of hepatitis" on 18 October 1870, in Meerut. He was never to see his homeland again and his children were part of a generation who were never to call England their home.

If you have a young man in your family who simply disappeared, especially between 1750- 1900, it may be worth checking the India records. You may just find him there. ***Importantly, if you have anyone called Joseph Greenwood, born around 1835, who may have gone to India - or who simply dropped off the radar, (whose death you have failed to find perhaps?) please get in touch.*** It is ironic that we know so much about his life in India, yet so little about his life here, on our doorstep. Sadly, not even his parents' names nor his date of birth is known.

Can you help? I would welcome advice or any ideas you could share to help me in this search. **Where can I look next?** Readers of *The Scrivener* have such a wealth of local knowledge! Any clue or contribution, however small it may seem, would be more than welcome.

My main hope is of finding someone who had a Joseph Greenwood in their family who might have disappeared off the radar. Or even someone whose relative was known to have gone to India.

Margaret Murray (e-mail: murraymarg@hotmail.com)

105th Madras European Light Infantry.

CALDERDALE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

2017 SPRING/SUMMER MEETINGS ~ Thursdays 7:30pm.

At The Shibden Room, North Bridge Leisure Centre

March 23rd
David Glover ~ Buried Alive (past funeral customs in Calderdale)

Tales of Deaths and Funerals in Calderdale, from early times down to about 1900. Includes stories which are spooky, quirky, and even amusing. Learn who was buried alive in Halifax Parish Church, and hear about the burial of eccentric Jonathan Walsh in his Southowram field. Where did the drunken gravedigger choose to sleep? Were Quakers once buried standing upright, as recorded by Oliver Heywood? While factual, this is quite a light-hearted talk!

April 27th
Annual General Meeting

May 25th
Trevor Moody ~ In the footsteps of the Brontes
The Brontes were not confined to Haworth. At various times some members of the family travelled to other places in Yorkshire, Cambridge, Cumbria, Lancashire, London, Scotland, Shropshire and Belgium. This talk, which includes 200 images, looks at the reasons for their travels and illustrates the places they visited.

June 22nd
Phil Judkins ~ The Navy in World War 1 and Family History – a new look
This is absolutely NOT "*Was your relative at Jutland?"* . It is the story of WW1's Royal Navy in World War I in all its aspects - Land, Sea, Air, Underwater – and 'Underhand'. The story of why so many sailors died fighting as soldiers or as airmen, the early attempts at Naval submarine power and the gallant trawler war (and the last Yorkshire survivor), and the story of the Navy's "spies of the airwaves". Using the latest research, and absolutely not the oft-told tale, this is the Navy's story as you have never heard it".

View our website at www.cfhsweb.com

and visit

Calderdale Family History Society's

RESEARCH ROOM

Brighouse Library
Rydings Park, Halifax Rd., Brighouse, HD6 2AF

Tuesdays 1:30pm to 4:30pm &Thursdays 10:00am to 1:00pm

Open to both Members & Non-Members

Facilities include :-

- **Searchable information on 4 computers.**
- **Fiches for all Calderdale C of E churches.**
- **6 Internet terminals, with access to Ancestry.com (Note—now increased from original 4 terminals)**
- **Wide range of books, journals, cuttings, etc.**

For more information and bookings ring 07952-211986 during the hours given above.

Huddersfield & District Family History Society

If you have ancestors in the Kirklees area, which covers the towns of Huddersfield, Dewsbury, Batley, Holmfirth and surrounding villages, then why not contact our Society for help and advice.

We have a research room at **the Root Cellar, 33A Greens End Road, Meltham, Holmfirth, HD9 5NW** and we are open at the following times on these days:

	Morning	Afternoon
Monday:		**2 pm to 4.30 pm**
Tuesday:		**2 pm to 4.30 pm**
Wednesday:	**10 am to 12.30 pm**	**2 pm to 4.30 pm**
Thursday:		**2 pm to 4.30 pm**
Friday:	**10.30 am to 1.00 pm**	
Saturday:		**2 pm to 4.30 pm**

Our telephone number is 01484 859229 and details of all our activities and how to join can be found at **www.hdfhs.org.uk.** You can also find us on Twitter and Facebook by searching for **'Huddersfield Family History Society'.**

USEFUL CONTACTS AND SOURCES FOR RESEARCHING WEST YORKSHIRE ANCESTORS

West Yorkshire Archive Service ~ www.archives.wyjs.org.uk (*This can be a good place to start to access the West Yorkshire Archive Catalogue)*

Calderdale District Archives, *(Registers, BTs, Census, etc. etc.)*
Calderdale Central Library, Northgate House, Northgate, Hailfax HXI IUN
Tel: +44 (0) 1422 392636 e-mail calderdale@wyjs.org.uk

WYAS Headquarters, Newstead Road, Wakefield WFI 2DE *(Registers, WRiding Registry of Deeds, Manorial Records etc.)*
Tel: +44 (0) 1924 305980 email : wakefield@wyjs.org.uk

The Borthwick Institute ~ www.york.ac.uk/inst/bihr/ *(Peculiar + PCY wills, BT's etc.)*
University of York, Heslington, YORK YO10 5DD
Tel: +44 (0) 1904 321166 email ~ link on website

Calderdale Central Reference Library (address as above) Tel: +44 (0) 1422 392631 e-mail reference.library@calderdale.gov.uk (*local studies collection, newspapers, maps, trade directories, IGI, GRO indexes, census and parish register fiche, on-line Familysearch and Ancestry; research service offered).*

Weaver to Web ~ www.calderdale.gov.uk/wtw/ The council maintains a website with a miscellany of information from the archives (*a wide range of photos, maps, census returns, parish registers, poll books, wills , etc., have been digitised to view online).*

Malcolm Bull's Calderdale Companion ~ http://www.calderdalecompanion.co.uk
(*Large collection of trivia, miscellaneous facts of people and places and other bits of local history about Halifax and Calderdale).*

All the Parish records transcribed by the Society are available to search (for a fee) on **FindMyPast.co.uk** *(In addition there are many other records available to search)*

West Yorkshire Parish Registers have been put online (for a fee) by the West Yorkshire Archives Service which can be accessed on **Ancestry.co.uk**. (*Again, many other useful records, for a fee)*

www.familysearch.org
(Thousands of records for free including the IGI and some census data). LDS Family History Centres are invaluable for 'distance research'. Check local telephone directories.

The National Archives ~ www.nationalarchives.gov.uk *(a wealth of data arising from public records, including BMD's, census and much much more).*
Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU Tel: +44 (0) 20 8876

www.direct.gov.uk/gro *is the website of the general register office for everything concerning civil registration and to order certificates.*

Consider subscribing to a periodical such as Family Tree Magazine or BBC's Who Do You Think You Are? Magazine. Online sites such as **GenesReunited** and **LostCousins** may help you find relatives researching the same family.

LOCAL FAMILY HISTORY FAIRS etc

Forthcoming Events of Interest :-

The London Group of Yorkshire FHS. Programme of events - 2017

Sat 18th March 2017
Debbie Kennett ~ DNA and its benefits in family history.

Sat 17th June 2017
Else Churchill ~ Women in family history.

Sat 23rd September 2017
John Hanson ~ My ancestor left a will – well they should have done!

Sat 18th November 2017
Ian Waller ~ Sold, Separated & Divorced: marriage breakdown over the centuries

Meetings held at the Society of Genealogists, 14, Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London EC1M 7BA.
Starting at 10.30am All welcome.

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE

6th - 8th April 2017 Exhibition at NEC Birmingham
Celebrity guest at this year's show will be Casualty star and Celebrity MasterChef contestant **Sunetra Sarker!**

The Federation of Family History Societies

Federation of Family History Societies' web site
www.ffhs.org.uk
This site has a wealth of links to events & information of interest to family historians. Find the EVENTS tab for a list of forthcoming events.

Buckinghamshire Family History Society Open Day
Saturday 29th July 2017, 10am to 4pm
The Grange School, Wendover Way, Aylesbury, HP21 7NH.

Research facilities including our names database (over five million entries), Parish Register, People, and Places libraries. Parish Register transcripts and other research aids will be on sale. Expert advice; guest societies from around the country; local heritage groups; suppliers of data CDs, maps, software, archival materials and much more.
Admission is free, with free parking at the venue.

Further information, including a full list of organisations attending, can be found at www.bucksfhs.org.uk

Calderdale Family History Society

Incorporating Halifax and District

Officers and Co-ordinators of the Society

Officer and Name,	Address and E-mail	Tel. No.
President		
Mr. Barrie Crossley,	9, Victoria Terr., Delph Hill Road, Halifax, HX2 7ED e-mail - president@cfhsweb.com	01422-366931
Chairman		
Mr. Clifford Drake,	22, Well Grove, Hove Edge, Brighouse, HD6 2LT e-mail - chairman@cfhsweb.com	01484-714311
Secretary		
Mrs. Margaret Smith,	4 Rawson Avenue, Halifax, HX3 0JP e-mail - secretary@cfhsweb.com	01422 -345164
Treasurer		
Mr. Peter Lord,	288 Halifax Road, Hove Edge, Brighouse, HD6 2PB e-mail - treasurer@cfhsweb.com	01484-718576
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Publications Officer (sales of books, CDs, etc.)		
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Mrs. Susan Lord	288 Halifax Road, Hove Edge, Brighouse, HD6 2PB e-mail - search@cfhsweb.com	01484 718576
Research Room Co-ordinator (for information about room at The Rydings)		
Vacant	e-mail -researchroom@cfhsweb.com	

[RR Bookings and Information Tues pm/Thurs am 07952-211986]

Officer and Name,	Address and E-mail	Tel. No.

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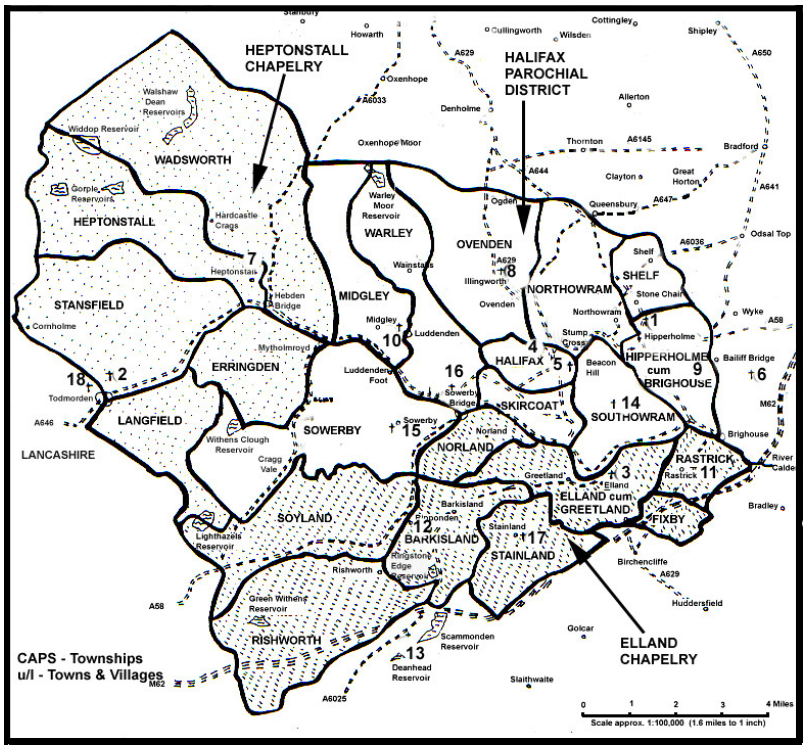
e-mail - librarian@cfhsweb.com 01422 - 823966

Members' Interests Co-ordinator

Mr. Mike Hardcastle, Cedarwood, The Grange, Huddersfield Road,
Brighouse, HD6 3RH
e-mail - interests@cfhsweb.com 01484 715493

The Society's Home Web Page on the Internet is
http://www.cfhsweb.com

CHAPELRIES AND TOWNSHIPS OF THE ANCIENT PARISH OF HALIFAX



	CHURCH/CHAPEL	Registers begin	BAP.	MAR.**	BUR.
1.	COLEY	St. John	1735	1745	1734
2.	CROSS STONE	St. Paul	1678	1837	1678
3.	ELLAND	St. Mary**	1559	1559	1559
4.	HALIFAX	St. James (inc St Mary Rhodes St 1953)	1832	1837	nk
5.	HALIFAX	St. John**	1538	1538	1538
6.	HARTSHEAD	St. Peter	1612	1612	1612
7.	HEPTONSTALL	St. Thomas**	1599	1593	1599
8.	ILLINGWORTH	St. Mary	1695	1697	1695
9.	LIGHTCLIFFE	St. Matthew	1703	1704	1704
10.	LUDDENDEN	St. Mary	1653	1661	1653
11.	RASTRICK	St. Matthew	1719	1839	1798
12.	RIPPONDEN	St. Bartholomew	1684	1686	1684
13.	SCAMMONDEN WITH MILLHEAD	St. Bartholomew	1746	1886	1746
14.	SOUTHOWRAM	St. Anne	1813	1838	1818
15.	SOWERBY	St. Peter	1668	1711	1643
16.	SOWERBY BRIDGE	Christ Church	1709	1730	1821
17.	STAINLAND	St. Andrew	1782	1844	1783
18.	TODMORDEN	St. Mary/Christ Church	1678	1669	1666

**Following Hardwicke's Marriages Act of 1754, Banns and Marriages will only be found in the registers of these churches. After 1837 they lost their monopoly of marriages.