

# THE SCRIVENER



*The Journal of Calderdale Family History Society  
Incorporating Halifax & District*

*Number 160*

*Autumn*

*September 2017*

# 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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/](http://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](http://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.

## **CONTENTS**

### **ARTICLES**

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>FRONT COVER</b>   | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>EDITORIAL</b>   | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>SEPTEMBER 2916 TALK - Pat Osborne -<br/>The Life of CATHERINE COOKSON</b> | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>POST BAG</b>  | <b>16</b> |
| <b>FIRTHs in AUSTRALIA</b>   | <b>17</b> |
| <b>UNWANTED CERTIFICATE - Ingham</b>   | <b>23</b> |
| <b>BACKGROUND to SCHOOL LOGS PROJECT</b>                                     | <b>29</b> |
| <b>A SERMON on REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY</b>  | <b>38</b> |

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>RESEARCH SERVICES</b>                                      | <b>24</b> |
| <b>HUDDERSFIELD FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY</b>                    | <b>43</b> |
| <b>USEFUL CONTACTS</b>  | <b>44</b> |
| <b>FAMILY HISTORY FAIRS, etc</b>                              | <b>45</b> |
| <b>ANCIENT PARISH OF HALIFAX ~ Chapelries &amp; Townships</b> | <b>48</b> |

### **CALDERDALE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY NEWS**

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>ABOUT CFHS</b>                         | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>MEMBERS' INTERESTS</b>                 | <b>24</b> |
| <b>PROJECTS UPDATE - School Logs</b>      | <b>25</b> |
| <b>GENFAIR USAGE - Are you confused ?</b> | <b>36</b> |
| <b>AUTUMN MEETINGS</b>                    | <b>42</b> |
| <b>RESEARCH ROOM DETAILS</b>              | <b>43</b> |
| <b>CFHS OFFICERS</b>                      | <b>46</b> |

### **PUBLICATION & SERVICES SUPPLEMENT**

**P1- P4**

## *THE SCRIVENER*

### Publication Dates

**WINTER 2017 (December)**  
**SPRING 2018 (March)**  
**SUMMER 2018 (June)**  
**AUTUMN 2018 (September)**

### Deadline Dates for Copy

**NOVEMBER 13th**  
**FEBRUARY 12th**  
**MAY 1st**  
**AUGUST 20th**

***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.com](mailto:membsec@cfhsweb.com).*

### **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**

In the June Scrivener (page 34) we printed an appeal for information about this medallion, which belonged to Muriel Waller nee Greenwood, or about Hebden Bridge Football League, or Ridge Rangers, or about Muriel or her father Harold Greenwood.

Any Information/queries can be sent to the editor  
[editor@cfhsweb.com](mailto:editor@cfhsweb.com)  
Or to John Waller

[j.waller@cwgsy.net](mailto:j.waller@cwgsy.net)

## *Editorial*

### **School Logs**

Our latest project is to transcribe School Logs from schools around Calderdale.

You will find articles by Peter Lord (Page 25) and Mark Harrey (Page 29) explaining what we are doing, and what the School Logs are all about.

If you would like to get involved, contact Peter Lord at [projects@cfhsweb.com](mailto:projects@cfhsweb.com) and he will welcome you to the group.

We hear a lot in the news about problems with our schools. Discipline; teacher shortages; attendance; funding; teachers' pay. We encounter the same problems when transcribing School Logs of the 1800s. Back then, children might be absent because of cold weather - maybe they could not afford warm clothing. Nowadays the problem seems to be family holidays which are too expensive during term time. So we are still "poor", but what a change in what "poor" means! (I guess we don't hear about the really poor). Expectations have increased vastly in the last 100 years or so.

In Victorian times children were taught the 3 Rs, and maybe needlework. The really useful subjects. Physical exercise was provided by running round the playground. Now we need educational trips, fun and creativity. All this has to be funded, now as then, and, according to "Parkinson's Law", expenditure grows to fit the funds available. Seems it's a never ending merry-go-round. So are our children better educated? Well, that is a matter of opinion. Who am I to make a judgement?

As always, thank you all for your contributions to Scrivener, and lively correspondence. (If your bit is not in this issue, look out for it in the next!)

Keep them coming!

**[editor@cfhsweb.com](mailto:editor@cfhsweb.com)**

**September Talk 2016**  
**The life of Catherine Cookson**  
**by Pat Osborne**

Catherine Cookson was born into the bleak industrial heartland of Tyneside in 1906 to an early life of abject poverty. Her great grandparents had been forced to flee Ireland in 1850 during the potato famine. Three consecutive harvests of potatoes had failed and with no other crop to fall back on, over a million people starved to death. Over a million managed to escape from Ireland. Those who had the money bought a ticket to America or to England. Catherine's great grandparents came to England with five children. One of those children became Catherine's grandma Rose.

Grandma Rose married William Fawcett in 1870, a good church going man with a gentle disposition. Unfortunately, William died in his thirties of consumption, leaving Rose destitute with five little girls to feed. She returned to her parents but they were struggling with their own poverty. She took the only work available in the pudding mills of Jarrow where they turned iron into cast iron.

Rose met John McMullen, an Irishman just back from service in India. He had cash in his pocket and offered to take Rose and her five daughters on. She moved in with him and falling pregnant they got married. Shortly afterwards they had their son also named John but called Jack. Rose lost two of her original five daughters in child mortality. John's army pay off did not last long as he was a heavy drinker. He took casual work at Jarrow docks, queuing at the gates in the early morning in the hope of being taken on. If he got the chance to do a double shift, Rose or one of her daughters would take a meal for him to eat, walking the three miles there and back; often not getting back until after dark and in all weathers. When no work was available at the docks, John was reduced to stone breaking at the workhouse. For a hard day's labour, you received a food voucher that was stamped no alcohol or tobacco. The Harton Workhouse loomed large over the area and everyone dreaded it.

They would exist on stew made from a penneth of pot herbs, a penneth of lentils, and if they were well off a penneth of meat scraps from the butcher. When they had nothing at all to eat, Rose would send her daughters around to the few doors of the better off houses in the area begging for bread. One day her daughter, Kate was sent to beg and a lady took pity on her standing bare footed on her doorstep in the winter. She gave Kate a loaf and a pair of shoes and socks. The comfort was short lived as Rose pawned the shoes the

next day to buy another meal. Pawning was a way of life. Families went to church on a Sunday, pawned the church suit on Monday when the rent was due hoping there would be wages on Friday when the suit could be got out on Saturday in time to go to church on Sunday. John did not go to church and did not have a suit so Rose pawned the brass candlesticks.

The girls were scared of their stepfather and when they were old enough they all took work away from home. Kate was twelve when she went into service with a butcher's family. She had to wash all the blood-stained clothing as butchers did all their own slaughtering in those days. She worked from 6.30am to late at night for half a crown. She was there a year. After many other jobs, Kate and her sister Mary managed to get living in jobs at the local pub, the Lambersley Inn. Mary was the chambermaid and Kate got the job as the barmaid. A well-dressed man who called in took an interest in Kate. He would turn up occasionally and take her out. Kate was deeply in love with him and after two years, aged twenty-three she considered herself engaged and finally let Alex make love to her just once but it was enough to get pregnant. Alex said he would stand by her but then he just stopped coming. Unmarried mothers ended up in the workhouse separated from their babies who were raised in the workhouse nursery. The unfortunate mothers had to work fourteen years of hard labour in the workhouse to pay for the upkeep of their child. Kate must have been sick to the soul when she had to go home on her half day to confess to being pregnant. Pregnancy out of wedlock was deeply frowned on in those working-class communities and an illegitimate bastard which is what they were called were shunned by society. Illegitimacy was a huge stigma and you could be refused employment if they knew. A plan was hatched; young Kate would be saved from the workhouse. Rose and John would take on the grandchild as if it was their own. Kate would have to return to service tipping up her wages to pay for the baby's upkeep. She had brought disgrace on the family and she was going to be made to pay.

Catherine was born at 5 Leam Lane on the Tyne dock, a three-minute walk from the five great slime dripping arches of the docks. Kate was nervous about registering Catherine's birth and having to admit that she was not married. She was a week late registering and lied about the date of birth so as not to get into trouble.

Catherine was raised as a McMullen and not Fawcett like her mother Kate. The family moved several times over the next few years moving to William Black Street in July 1912. They moved in to what

was called the New Buildings which consisted of two terraces and three streets. The houses were maisonettes with backyards, the upstairs houses had two rooms and the downstairs had three. Each house had a lavatory in the backyard but there was no flush or sewers, just a dry midden led by a tube to a hatch in the entry. Every day the scavenger van came around and what must have been the worst job imaginable, the scavenger men had to open the hatch and shovel it all out on to the cart. Proud families use to put dry ashes down the pan to stop the smell.

Kate came home on her half day leave to the old house. She had not been told of the move and broke down in tears when she found the house empty as she thought the family had been sent to the workhouse. A neighbour directed her to William Black Street. She was furious with her mother for not having written to tell her about the move but Rose said she had had no money for a stamp. Kate always brought her wages and some baking. Her stepbrother Jack a loud man like his father was not good with women started to sexually pester Kate so she was relieved to be working away.

There were strict rules in these working-class houses. The men did outside work when work was available but never lifted a finger at home. The women had to do all the housework and repairs and even mend everybody's shoes. Most families had lodgers who for a penny would sleep on your kitchen floor at night rather than out in the street. Rose and John often had as many as five lodgers. They would come in at bedtime and disappear at breakfast time. The lodgers and Jack would sleep on the kitchen floor, the grandparents slept in the other room, the bedroom. Catherine slept in a curtained off area in the corner of her grandparent's bedroom and when Kate was home she would get in with Catherine. The house was often so crowded that Catherine's only refuge was the outside lavvy where she would lock herself in and daydream.

This was Catherine's life for six years. Grandma Rose loved and nurtured her and she won John's heart. Every lunchtime he would start his meal with a boiled egg. His ritual was to cut the top third off and give it to Catherine on a spoon. Although they kept hens she never remembered having a whole egg to herself. When John was due home from work, Rose would put one of the girls on lookout on the front step and when John was spied at the top of the street she ran into to tell Rose who would rush to finish the meal so that it was on the table as John walked in the door. The men really dominated their household. John had a reputation as a fighter, he would scrap



with his son Jack and fight with Rose after drink but he never raised a hand to Catherine.

In 1913 Catherine moved to the Protestant School as it was nearby and more convenient and all the neighbours' children went there. Later that year Catherine's world came crashing down around her. She had been playing shop in the street with the other girls. They had bits of broken glass and china pretending they were things they were selling in the shop. One of the girls stole Catherine's favourite piece of green glass and would not give it back. Catherine said, 'Give me it back or I will tell me, Ma'. The other girl taunted her saying 'She is not your Ma, she is your Grandma. Kate is your Ma and she drinks and what's more you have no Da'. Catherine says 'Don't be stupid. Me Da is in the kitchen now'. The other girl said, 'He is not your Da, he is your Granda and he is an old sod cos my Mum says so'. All the kids took up the chant 'You got no Da'. Catherine fled home and locked herself in the outside lavvy. She was there for ages picking off the whitewash trying to make sense of what she had been told. She walked toward the house seeing Kate framed in the kitchen window doing her chores. The awful truth dawned on her, Kate was her Ma and what was more, she drank. It was bad enough your sister took a drink but for your mother to drink was shameful. She did not tell Kate what the other children had told her nor ask her any questions. Over the next few days Catherine wondered who her father had been or who she would have liked him to be. An answer came a few days later. Doctor McAffey was visiting John at home as he had injured his leg at work. As the doctor was leaving, he offered Catherine a lift to school in his motorcar as he was going past her school. The doctor dropped her off at the school gate. All the local girls saw her arriving and the doctor tooted and drove off. Catherine boldly told the girls 'There, what I told you I have got a Da and what's more we have a motorcar'. She never did tell the doctor.

Grandma Rose became ill and Kate was told she had to give up her job in service to come home and keep house for the family. Kate often kept Catherine off school on a Monday so as to send her to the pawn shop with the brass candlesticks or whatever else they had to pawn for the rent money. Catherine would be embarrassed walking past the dock gates with the tell-tale brown paper parcel wrapped up in string as everyone knew where she was going. Her mother often sent her to the off licence to collect beer sold on draught. You had to take your own container. Catherine took the 'old grey hen' jug made of stone which was heavy when empty and very heavy when full. She was given a half penny for the tram back

when the jug was heavy but because she was saving up she would pocket the money and struggle back with the jug on her hip. This gave her a limp in later years. Drunkenness was endemic in the dock area. The men who owned the shipping company and the ships usually owned most of the workers houses and the local shops and pub. They gave the men their wages on Friday and got most of it back on Monday in rent and the rest through the shop or the pub over the rest of the week.

Kate's stepbrother, Jack and his pal volunteered for the army before they were conscripted and the family were proud of them. The family received a telegram saying he was coming home as he was injured but he did not arrive having died of his injuries on the way. Kate was secretly relieved as she knew she could not live in the same house as her stepbrother without him starting to pester her again. Grandad John got an army pension as he claimed he had his son's dependant which made things a bit easier financially. Later that year Grandma Rose died and young Catherine woke to find her grandma laid out in the bedroom. The body was there three days and three nights giving Catherine nightmares. Children were not protected from death then as we are today. Rose was given a pauper funeral and buried in the Jarrow cemetery. John tried to dominate Kate like he had his wife and occasionally after drink he forgot himself and made sexual advances towards her. But Kate threatened him with a frying pan and a knife and a truce was declared. Kate and John began to drown their sorrows in whisky as well as ale. If Catherine hated her mother after ale she despised her after whisky.

One Saturday, Catherine asked Kate to iron her best pinny because Cecilia Walker was having a birthday party. Catherine had not actually had an invitation but that did not matter as everyone at school seemed to be going. She went to the address and knocked on the door but they ignored her for quite a while. She was a persistent little devil and kept banging until Cecilia eventually came down. Cecilia said 'You can't come up. Me Ma said so because you've got no Da'. Catherine ran home in tears. Kate said, 'Never mind lass you're the wrong colour' thinking it was a question of religion but Catherine was convinced it was about the illegitimate issue. Decades later at a book signing, Catherine spotted Cecilia Walker in the queue of women waiting to have their copies of her book signed. When Cecilia got to the head of the queue she was all smarmy saying 'Hello Catherine. Do you remember how nicely we used to play together when we were children?' Catherine just stared at her and

said, 'I am sorry I don't think I know you'. She would not admit to recognising Cecilia.

Catherine became consumed with anger, probably over the illegitimate issue and became a bit of a bully. Kate's drinking caused Catherine's bad behaviour and Kate used to hit her when she misbehaved which only made things worse. She would retreat into her own little world of fantasy. Her Grandad John told her 'You are a stinking little liar but don't stop as it will get you somewhere, either in the money or in the clink'. If the London streets had shaped Dickens; the dock area certainly shaped Catherine.

Kate made pies and would sell the pies to the neighbours. Catherine approved of this as she thought it was respectful. With Jack's army pension and some money from Kate's baking they started to feel a bit better off. Coming home from school one day, Catherine was astounded to hear that her mother had taken higher purchase on a brand-new piano. The neighbours were well impressed. Catherine was going to piano lessons but she was very slow to learn probably paralysed with fear as she knew her mother would not keep up the repayments and the piano would be repossessed; as it was a few months later.

Catherine had developed an irrational hatred of her teacher and prayed that she hoped she would die. On hearing some months later that her teacher had died of cancer, she was mortified thinking it was her prayer that had done it. She could not get to confessional quick enough. Catherine officially left school at thirteen and went into service working for a family called Johnson as a general maid, cooking and washing for 50 pence a week less her stamp. After she had paid her keep at home she started to buy nice things but she was frequently annoyed when she came home to find Kate had pawned them. She took a craft class in fabric painting and found she had quite a flair for it and started painting table cloths and chair backs, setting up in a little cottage industry.

When she was sixteen, she asked her Aunt Mary about her father. Mary said he was a well-dressed, well-spoken gentleman, a bit of a toff. The local doctor recommended a job going at Harton Workhouse in the laundry. Catherine had three or four different boyfriends round this time but they turned out to be either engaged or married. The final straw came when a married man broke her heart at twenty-three and she decided to move away from the north.

In 1929, Catherine accepted a job at Hastings Workhouse in Sussex. She started to save every penny she could and began to reinvent herself through buying smart clothes from second hand dress agencies, taking elocution lessons and learning to play the violin. Only in later life did she admit to acting better than she was. Back in Jarrow people had treated her social pretensions with ridicule thinking her an upstart whereas in Hastings she was initially taken on face value. The workhouse matron asked Catherine if she knew of any other hard working girl back home who would like to work in Hastings and Catherine recommended Annie Joyce. The workhouse laundry staff quizzed Annie about Catherine's background and she unwittingly revealed Catherine's situation as Kate's illegitimate daughter. The matron was furious to have a supervisor who was illegitimate and asked Catherine to produce her birth certificate. Catherine wrote to her mother asking for her birth certificate and found out for the first time that when Kate registered the birth she pretended she was married to the baby's father, Alex Davis, listing him as her husband and the father. Receiving this information was a very emotional moment for Catherine and she blamed her mother and grandmother for withholding it, adding another barrier in the already difficult relationship with her mother. Her anger with Annie Joyce for revealing her illegitimacy was monumental and she did not speak to her for thirty years.

Catherine moved to a larger laundry in Hastings and started putting five shillings a month away in the South Shields Building Society. She ensured hers and Kate's life with the Prudential and took a flat which she decorated and furnished with quality second hand furniture. Catherine started having heavy nose bleeds and became very anaemic. She did see a specialist but at that stage she saw no reason for concern.

Catherine had become very lonely in Hastings and made an unlikely friend Annie Smyth known as Nan who was working as a temporary laundry worker. Nan had a husband and a handicapped child back in Ireland and worked away to send money home to them. Nan was eleven years older than Catherine, she was ex-army and very masculine. Catherine thought Nan was lazy and was going to sack her but when she needed workers to work overtime; Nan was the only one who volunteered. They became friends and decided to share a flat. The matron was aghast when told they were taking a flat together and asked how many bedrooms did the flat have? Catherine said 'One. I have shared a bedroom and a bed all my life, what is the difference?'

In 1923 Kate married Dave, one of her lodgers away at sea most of the time. Later that year Grandad John died. Catherine did not go home for the funeral not wanting to witness her mother's drunkenness at his wake so sent home the £20 necessary to bury her grandad. She found out later from her Aunt Mary that Kate only gave the funeral people ten pounds spending the rest on drink.

In 1931 Catherine went home to Tyneside and invited her mother back to Hastings in the summer for a week's holiday which was a success as Kate did not drink and she got on well with Nan. Nan suggested that Kate came to live with them. Dave could send his allotment every week and when on shore leave he could come to Hastings. Catherine took a larger flat to accommodate the three of them. On the day of Kate's arrival in Hastings, her train arrived early and Catherine was late meeting her. By the time, she got to the platform, Kate was sitting on her case roaring drunk.

Catherine started a guest house and one of the first lodgers was a school master from Hastings Grammar School called Tom Cookson. At only five foot, four inches he was very aware of his lack of height and very shy. But unable to get Catherine out of his mind he asked if she would like to go to the cinema. Catherine agreed and they got on very well. He loved the idea that this girl who had left school at thirteen could discuss Voltaire and all sorts of high minded literature. When things got serious, Nan and Kate turned against Tom and tried to split them up. So, Tom and Catherine decided to stop seeing each other.

Kate agreed to move back up to Tyneside if Catherine cleared her mounting debts. Nan was running the guest house on Catherine's behalf whilst she managed the laundry. With Kate out of the way, Tom and Catherine fell for each other all over again. Nan pretended to approve of Tom but secretly she was jealous of the relationship. At New Year of 1938 there was an almighty show down. Tom had invited Catherine to a New Year's dance and she had agreed to go. Nan threatened to hang herself at midnight if Catherine went to the dance. Catherine had to cancel her plans and sit talking to Nan through the night. It was certainly an intense relationship which had reached an impossible situation. Catherine gave Nan £1300 to set up her own guest house in recognition of the help she had given Catherine with setting up hers. They did not see each other again for many years. Catherine heard Nan was doing well having the racing set from Ireland as her guests but eventually Nan lost it all ending up destitute in a squalid flat on Hasting's seafront.

Kate's husband Dave died when he returned to his ship drunk and fell off the gang plank. The shipping company offered Kate compensation which Catherine arranged to be paid as a £2 a week pension. Unknown to Catherine, Kate applied to the shipping company for a lump sum saying she wanted to set up a business. Of course, by the following year she had nothing left. It was 1939 and the country was at war. The government told Catherine as she had a large house she had to take in either child evacuees' or blind refugees; she opted for the latter. Catherine was overdoing it; her nose bleeds were very heavy every day. In 1940 then aged thirty-four, Catherine proposed to Tom and they were married on June 1<sup>st</sup> as Dunkirk was evacuating. Tom had given her a name of her own, Mrs Catherine Cookson and she felt truly respectable, married to a grammar school teacher who was an Oxford graduate. Her first baby, David was stillborn three months too early. After three more heart breaking miscarriages, Catherine was diagnosed as suffering from a rare blood disorder, a vascular disease. Losing the babies and realising she would never carry a baby to full term caused her to become very depressed suffering a severe mental breakdown which dogged the next ten years of her life. By now, Tom had been called up to fight in the war and Catherine was struggling alone. To combat depression, she joined the Hastings writing circle. Initially she wrote boring stories of the landed gentry. However, realising her work lacked credibility she started to write about what she knew and one week astounded the other members of the writing club with a story called 'She's got no Da' for which she got a standing ovation. She expanded on that story and it became her first novel *Kate Hannigan* published in 1950. Happily, Tom came home safe from the war and returned to teaching. As Catherine became successful, he gave up his job to become her assistant doing everything including the housework, cooking and the laundry just so she could write.

In 1953 Kate returned to live with Catherine and Tom. They were reconciled, Kate did not drink and they enjoyed the last three years before she died in 1956. Having set up her office in her mother's bedroom, Catherine said she felt her mother's presence as she wrote which comforted her. She had asked Kate about her father and Kate told her that her Aunt Mary's idea of the well dressed, well-spoken toff was exaggerated. The researchers found that Alex had been married to a woman called Henrietta Wiggitt. It was not a happy marriage and they split up before they had any children and so they lived apart. Apparently, Alex had gone back to ask Henrietta for a divorce and this must have been when Kate had told him she was pregnant and he was hoping to marry her. When Henrietta refused him a divorce rather than going back and admitting to Kate he

was already married and could not marry her, he just never went back. Years later he married his wife Jane; not bothering to tell her he was already married, he married bigamously. He died from the same very rare blood disorder that Catherine had.

Tom and Catherine had had nothing to do with Nan for many years. When they found out she was ill and living in Hastings they started visiting her once a week taking her a bag of groceries. On one occasion when Catherine was away, Tom went as usual to visit Nan. She told him she was dying adding that when she died there were papers in the dressing table she wanted him to get out and have. Nan died whilst Catherine was away on business, and Tom pulled out the papers from the dressing table and was shocked to find out that they were a bundle of intimate love letters written between Nan and Catherine obviously during the period they were sharing a flat together. It seemed that the workhouse matron was quite right to be suspicious as it was clearly a close relationship. Tom rang Catherine to tell her that Nan had died and asked her to stay away until after the funeral. Catherine thinking, he was sparing her the upset of the funeral agreed. When Catherine came home, Tom handed her the letters. They were both devastated and Tom packed his bags. Over the next week, they both admit to each other they cannot live without the other person and agree to stay together but their relationship was never really the same again. Nan had been determined to split up Tom and Catherine even from beyond the grave.

Catherine wrote 100 books which were translated into over 100 languages. She became a multi-millionaire from the sale of her books but her own spending was rather frugal. She indulged in discreet philanthropy over the years giving hundreds and thousands of pounds to towards setting up haematology units particularly to deal with the disease that blighted her life. She was awarded an OBE in 1985, created a Dame in 1993 and given the freedom of the borough of Tyneside. They decided to move back up north. By now Catherine was quite poorly and over the next five years they move three times, moving closer to the hospital where Catherine was being treated. Often Tom had to rush Catherine into hospital in the middle of the night when he could not stem the bleeding. Catherine had five heart attacks and then caught pneumonia. She died sixteen days before her ninety-second birthday still dictating her stories into a Dictaphone. Tom put her affairs in order and arranged her funeral. He died three weeks later. He did say his life only began the day he met Catherine. They say that behind every successful man there is a strong woman; well Tom was certainly the strong man behind Catherine and she could not have achieved what she did without Tom's help.

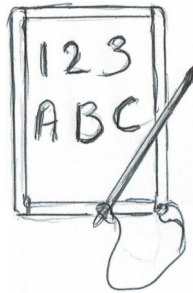
## POST BAG

### School Logs

#### School: A Preparation for the Adult World.

**R**eadng, w**R**iting, a**R**ithmetic,  
Go to school and learn a trick.

The child who learns to read can then  
Take his place in the world of men.



**Ann Cestor**

\*\*\*\*\*



#### But Now .....

Public Relations; Sociology,  
**A.I.** and Digital Technology.

Anything you don't know yet  
You'll find it on the internet!

**Jeannie Allergist**



Dear Mrs Stubbs

I'm attaching some notes I've prepared about my great-grandfather and his brother, and their adventure at the diggings in Australia.

I hope they will be of interest to members; the hints they throw up are tantalising.

I may say that soon after joining the CFHS some years ago I was contacted by a very distant cousin Brian Firth who had already done the hard grind of tracing the family tree, back to 1685, which rather discouraged me, so I find it more interesting to try to fill in some detail about individuals.

Yours truly

**Robert Firth (2336)**

In 1857 two brothers Thomas and Samuel Firth left their home in Illingworth to seek their fortune in the goldfields of Victoria, Australia. Sadly they found no fortune, though a tiny nugget of gold has been passed down to me, Samuel's great-grandson.

Far more interesting however than this scrap of treasure are the papers which accompany it, and the questions they raise on mid-nineteenth century life back in Halifax. There is Samuel's daily diary of the voyage out, a Miner's Right or licence, a Court of Mines Plaintiff Summons, and best of all, letters. Two letters from Emma Greenwood from Upper School Croft, who was to marry Thomas, refer among other names to her friend Rachel Rushworth, eventually Samuel's wife, my great-grandmother; another, from a fellow miner John Hawkins, is written from gaol, and a second one from John Hawkins, now out of gaol, is written with his wife Emma from the delightful address of Nuggetty Gully; and finally one from the young men's father, James Firth, tells his sons how sorry their mother Hannah is that he ever put up the money for their passage out.

I think the interest for members will be in the Halifax area names and places mentioned in these papers, so I will list them in chrono-

logical order with a brief context. Original spelling and punctuation is retained.

1. From the diary of the voyage Liverpool to Melbourne 21 July – 4 November 1857 on board the Monarch of the Sea:

5 August. "...we have got a woman that is in the next birth to cook for us she comes from hundersfild she has her husband with her and three children."

August 12 " ... we have some young men from Bradford with us and some from Halifax with us and we all pack in to gether as the same as brother."

2. Letter from James & Hannah Firth, Illingworth Moor, 10 June 1858: "John Holmes wife is coming ... the 5 day of July."

"My first letter was written on the 11 day of Febry it was directed to Mr John Holmes store keeper Fryers Town near Melbourne Victoria Australia for Thomas and Saml Firth. "

James says that in that first letter he stated what had happened to Saml Firth [a different one]

**" ... he died on the voyage on the 24 day of March the same month he set sail from Liverpool."**

" ...there is very little building going on in Halifax this summer and Alfred Bancraft told me the other day thay had very little wark only a bit of gabling."

" ... I will menshan again about John Deans sons and Abraham Barret thay are at Creswick creek Diggins about 70 miles from Melbourne."

" ... I understand Janne Priestley is sending by Mrs Holmes to se if John Holmes will imploy him if so he will come again to Australia for he is not content here with his farming he may work his soul out for nothing."

3. Court of Mines Plaint Summons, November 1859. Isaac Hawkins, John Hawkins, Thomas Firth and Samuel Firth are summoned to appear to answer the plaint of George Redman of Sulky Gully and Alfred Redman of Creswick, who seek to dissolve the partnership in the claims of Nuggetty Gully, Creswick.

4. Letter from Emma Greenwood to Thomas Firth, Illingworth, Easter Monday morning, 9 April 1860. "I am going to Halifax this morn-

ing and we shall be busy this afternoon and tomorrow we are going to my brother Jonases to tea so you see how we are going to spend Easter I dont know that there is anything at all particular Sam Bradley I heard was going to be married this Easter to a girl on the moor-side Aaron is a engine tenter at Crossleys ..."

5. William Hawkins to Thomas Firth, Ballarat, 12 April 1860. (This one I transcribe in full; even though we know the names, it introduces an element of scandal. )

"Dear Friend I hope this will find you in good health as it leaves me at present. Know that I have been arrested and am at Ballarat Camp for trial if you will be kind enuff to come to see me I shall be much Obiebge to you as I have something of importance to communicate to you let my brother John know that I wish to see him to if you cannot come let old George know that I wish to see him there is a friend of yours here you can see me at any time for the governor has been kind enough to grant that request I have seen no parson yet for I feel ahamed to send to anyone I know inquire if there is any letters for me at the post office there is one from England  
Yours Truly Wm Hawkins  
Bring letters with you

6. Emma Greenwood to Thomas Firth, Upperschoolcroft, Decr 17 1860

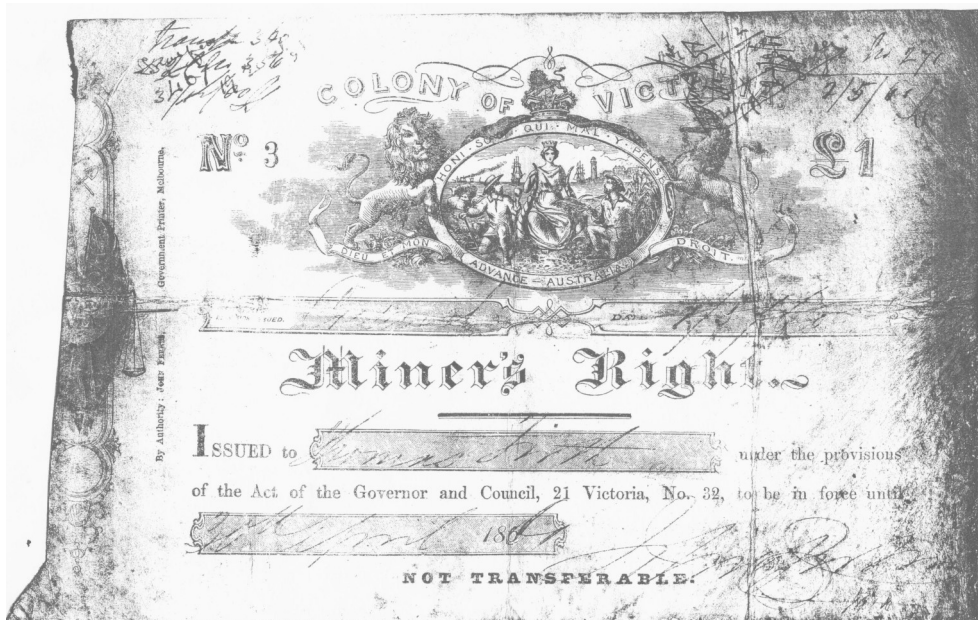
"Wilson Midgley landed home last week but I suppose his father has had to send money for him to come with, we are all very well here at presant and James Berry sends his kind love to you and wishes you safe at home and I expect he thinks he will be married before then."

"Rachel Rushworth has been up tonight with a new dress to make for this Christmas it is a plaid one and I will just send you a little bit to let you see what sort it is and you must be sure to let your Sam look of course."

"William Holdsworth and Rachel are talking of removing to Catherine Slack to be nearer his work Ann and Jonothan has come back from West Hartlepool he has got work at Halifax but they are living at Daniels and they have one child as for all your old friends I cannot tell you much about them for the Bradleys are all working at Halifax at Crossleys David is a foreman there and Aaron is the head Engineer and Sam is a engine tenter and Joe is coachman I heard for Mr Franks as for the Elsworths I have not seen William for a long time I think he is not making so much fuss about home as he used

to do Ben I believe courts Mary Charnock yet and John is still living at Sowerby and Henry Illingworth is living at Denholme with his grandmother." [enclosed: square 6cm x 6cm of black/purple check wool dress material]

7. Miner's Right 1/5/60No. 3 "Issued to Thomas Firth under the provisions of the Act of the Governor and Council, 21 Victoria, No. 32, to be in force until: 30 April 1861. Not transferable." £1



8. This one is worth quoting in full for the sake of names and events.

Emma & John Hawkins to Thomas and Samuel Firth, Nuggetty Gul-ly 24 June 1861

Dear friends thomas and Samuel firth

I hope that you boath arrived safe at home for you have had a longer voyage then I should like to under take for I ham to fond of the land my self samuel your shair is soled for £15 pounds to Mr Worker the timber merchant it was soled before you left melbourne thay have just struck the reaf hafter Driving 40 feat to the East it looks very well thay can se gold in the reaf shairs is not Eney beter to sell

then when you was their the old claim is turning out has wel has it  
did befor the haverage has ben hever since you left 17 6 per weak  
per man

John Dean has ben tried thay all swor fols for him thay got Mrs Con-  
ner to swair that the boys hustto shout hafter him has he went along  
the road you now that to be aly has well has I dew they air guine to  
keap him in jail for the queans plusher

Samuel preastley has soled his shair in his claim for £7 pounds he  
has not one shiling to bless himself With he has been to Melbourne  
to look for Work he did not get eney Work in Melbourne Barker all  
but kiled his wife latley sam Dean and Joe Dean has not got ashirt  
to their Back tom and hary has left them I now conclude with all our  
kind love to you boath and Remain your Ever Affectionate friends  
Emma and John Hawkins

We air all in Good helth think God for it hoping that you air all in  
Good helth to  
Direct John Hawkins  
nuggety Gully

I will send more

\*\*\*\*\*

Great-great-grandfather James Firth was born in 1803, and had a  
business in the building trade. He is reputed to have built the row of  
cottages standing at right angles to Illingworth Road, for which I  
used to collect rents up to about 1960, when they were sold. His  
wife, Hannah Dean, was born in 1806. Thomas, b. 1833, and Sam-  
uel, b. 1834, appear to have returned to Halifax by 1861, and mar-  
ried Emma Greenwood and Rachel Rushworth respectively.

Apparently they both entered the grocery business, though inde-  
pendently. Certainly Samuel's son Walter, my grandfather, was a  
grocer, first in the Hanson Lane area of Halifax, and moving to  
Bradford sometime during the 1914-18 war.

A few of the questions arising in my mind, which I feel sure mem-  
bers will be able to help solve are:

What were economic conditions like in Halifax in the 1850s, particu-  
larly in the building trade and farming? Bad enough to drive two  
enterprising lads to undertake such a hazardous adventure as gold

digging? Clearly many of their Australian acquaintances fell on hard times.

What was the mechanism for getting migrants to Australia? Were there local agents arranging passages? Quite few people from around Halifax appear to have been in the goldfields at the time, though of course not all the people mentioned may have been from the West Riding.

How many of them made a living, how many returned home, and how many stayed as settlers?

What sort of schools were there in the Halifax of the 1830s/40s, before the 1870 Education Act? Emma Greenwood writes a well-composed, mostly properly spelt letter, and has clearly had at least a good elementary education. Samuel's diary is pretty slapdash, and John Hawkins sets his lively letters out quite formally but conventional spelling is not his strong point. If these notes enable any members to fill in gaps in their family histories I shall be very pleased to hear from them at

**robertfirth38@aol.com.**

**Names & people mentioned:**

James Firth and Hannah Firth nee Dean, of Illingworth, father & mother of

Thomas and Samuel Firth

John Holmes storekeeper at Fryers Town near Melbourne.

Mrs Holmes, leaving for Australia 5 July 1860.

Samuel Firth d. on voyage 24 March [1860?]

Alfred Bancraft [Bancroft?] Halifax builder.

John Dean's sons:

Sam Dean & Joe Dean are at Creswick Creek; haven't a shirt to their back Dec.1861 and

Tom & Harry have left them.

Abraham Barret is at Creswick Creek

Janne Priestley, farmer, is contemplating seeking work in Australia.

Emma Greenwood, of Upper Schole Croft, subsequently m. Thomas.

Rachel Rushworth m. Samuel.

Woman from Huddersfield with her husband & three children.

Young men from Bradford and Halifax.

Isaac, William, & John Hawkins, and George & Alfred Redman, partners in claims at

Nuggetty Gully.

Jonas Greenwood, Emma's brother.  
Wilson Midgley returned Dec. 1860; father may have paid for passage home.  
James Berry expected to be married before Thomas & Samuel get home. Dec. 1860.  
William & Rachel Holdsworth are talking of removing to Catherine Slack to be nearer his work. Dec 1860.  
Ann & Jonothan have come back from West Hartlepool; he has got work at Halifax.  
but they are living at Daniels, and they have one child. Dec 1860.  
Bradleys are all working at Halifax at Crossleys:  
David Bradley is a foreman,  
Aaron Bradley is the head engineer,  
Sam Bradley an engine tender,  
Joe Bradley is coachman for:  
Mr Franks.  
Elsworths:  
William Elsworth not making so much fuss about home as he used to,  
John Elsworth still living at Sowerby, and  
Ben Elsworth still courting:  
Mary Charnock  
Henry Illingworth living at Denholme with his grandmother.  
Mr Walker timber merchant Creswick Creek 1860.  
John Dean has been tried; to be kept in custody at the Queen's pleasure;  
witnesses including Mrs Connor lied.  
Samuel Priestley has sold his share; hasn't one shilling to bless himself. Found no work in Melbourne.  
Barker all but killed his wife lately.



#### UNWANTED CERTIFICATE.

The following Death certificate has been donated to the Society.

John Ingham. Died January 1838 Aged 76 years.

The certificate states he was killed by Peter Harrington. Accompanying newspaper cuttings reveal the full story.

Anyone interested please contact Joan Drake at [publications@cfhsweb.com](mailto:publications@cfhsweb.com)

### New Members' Interests

| Surname     | Location      | County | Known<br>from | Known<br>to | Wanted<br>from | Wanted<br>to | Code |
|-------------|---------------|--------|---------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|------|
| ILLINGWORTH | HALIFAX       | WRY    | 1769          | 1860        | Start          | 1769         | 3803 |
| ROBINSON    | LEEDS         | WRY    | 1800          | 1835        | Start          | 1800         | 3803 |
| AINLEY      | ELLAND        | WRY    | 1801          | 1910        | Start          | Now          | 3656 |
| COLLINS     | HARTSHEAD     | WRY    | 1790          | 1863        | Start          | 1790         | 3803 |
| HIGHLEY     | HALIFAX       | WRY    | 1751          | 1858        | Start          | 1751         | 3803 |
| CRAVEN      | RIPLEY        | WRY    | 1741          | 1790        | Start          | 1741         | 3803 |
| CRAVEN      | SOUTH STANLEY | WRY    |               |             | 1819           | 1860         | 3803 |
| LONGFIELD   | HOOK          | WRY    | 1771          | 1787        | Start          | 1771         | 3803 |
| HARDCASTLE  | SALTGATE      | YRK    | 1771          | 1835        | Start          | 1771         | 3803 |
|             | HAMPSTHWAITE  |        |               |             |                |              |      |
| HEY/HAY     | HALIFAX       | WRY    | 1806          | 1922        | Start          | 1806         | 3803 |
| MARSDEN     | ELLAND        | WRY    | 1806          | 1849        | Start          | Now          | 3656 |
| BARKHAM     | HALIFAX       | WRY    |               |             | 1890           | Now          | 3825 |

### New MI address list

3656 Mrs H. Holt, h.j.holt@btinternet.com  
 3803 Mrs K. Layne, klayne@webone.com.au  
 3825 Ms J.Burgess, hotpinkandblue@hotmail.com



### Who did you think you were?

Or who do think you might be?..... Lots of folk are now keen to delve into their family's past and unearth their stories. If you would like some help with your story, please let me know. I have tackled more than 190 genealogies, including many originating in Yorkshire, and never been beaten yet.

My prices vary depending on how much I can find out or what certificates I have to send away for. The costs are usually between £70 and £100 and this is because I really enjoy the research and writing up the stories. If you are interested, please contact me on [sabramham@outlook.com](mailto:sabramham@outlook.com) and we can try to proceed from there.



## **School Logs- our current project - more details**

You will have seen, from our last few months' Newsletter reports, that we have embarked on an ambitious project to make School Logs available to our membership & to the Family History community at large.

### **Background.**

This is a departure from our usual activities, which generally centre on lists of names from various sources, mostly Parish Registers. On this occasion, although we would have liked to transcribe "Schools Admissions" - lists of names of children admitted to the schools of Calderdale - we were not able to, because the WY Archives preferred to reserve these for the Commercial Companies to have.

This allows them to bolster their finances at a time when Local & Central government budgets are under so much pressure that the Archives find it difficult to be able to provide the service they want, and need to, so that they can continue to safeguard unique material & make it available to the public.

Consequently, we have come to an agreement with WY Archives that they will allow us access to School Logs & to transcribe the events from them that associated directly with named people. This involves our transcription team reading through the pages of the Logs & extracting information that can be attributed to an individual.

School Logs are fascinating historical documents, being a day-by-day (but sometimes only weekly) account of life at a school, almost invariably written by the Head Teacher. Reading them gives you a contemporary insight into what education in the 2nd half of the 19th century was like & the difficulties facing pupils, staff & authorities alike.

Elsewhere in this edition of the Scrivener you will find an account, written by one of our transcription team, giving the background to why these Logs were kept. This article is to describe what we are providing and to give a number of "caveats" on the information given.

### **How the Transcription has been done.**

We are attempting to transcribe from the available School Logs from 74 schools in Calderdale, the earliest from 1875, up to the last year which we are allowed to see, which is 100 years ago - 1917.

Some schools had more than 1 Log Book going at a time - typically from both Boys & Girls' schools & also, occasionally, from the Infants school. Infuriatingly, because they were being written (sometimes) by compulsion, contemporary people were not always referred to by name - for instance, many references are to "The Vicar" without naming him. Equally, pupils are often referred to but not named - "a boy was sent home with verminous hair"

As well, the Head Teacher was not always consistent in her naming of people - sometimes it might say "Miss Milner" other times it may say "Judith Milner" or just "J Milner".

The information that our transcribers extract is as follows :-

- Page No. (on which the entry occurs)
- Surname
- Forename, or anything else that identifies the person - initials or even just title - say "Miss"
- Person Type - eg Teacher, Pupil, Parent etc.
- Date
- Event Type - eg Staffing, Prize Giving, Discipline etc.
- Description - a brief description of the event in less than 100 characters
- Abode - where the person concerned lived, if it is indicated
- Notes - any explanatory note about the entry &, occasionally, an extension of the Description

Once a school has been completed, it is added to the database & a **single entry only** for each person mentioned at a school is added to the name Index which is held both in the Research Room & on our website Transcription Index. That entry gives surname, forename, school & the date the first entry on the log for that person.

### **How you can get to see the data.**

If you are local to Brighouse, you can go into our Research Room in Brighouse Library & look at both the transcribed data & images of the log pages from which they have been derived. Our local volunteers there will show you how to do it.

If you are not local, then use the Transcription Index on our website (under "Research/Transcription Index" menu item) to find the name (s) that you want. Make sure you are logged on as a Society member & then take the option to request the transcription details from our Search Coordinator, free of charge. She will send you a list of **every event** for the person requested from the school mentioned.

If you want to look at the actual pages involved, send an E-Mail direct to [search@cfhsweb.com](mailto:search@cfhsweb.com) & ask for the page images. You will need to quote the school concerned & the page no. you want to see. The Search Coordinator will send you a set of 10 or 20 pages which contain the page you want. This allows you to read the actual words used to describe the event concerned. Also, by reading the page(s) before & after your entry, you will get more of a feel for what was happening at the school.

### **Things to watch out for when looking at the data.**

The challenge for the transcribers is to try to be as consistent as possible. For instance, if a teacher is referred to as just "Miss Milner" & later as "J A Milner" we try to give the forename as "J A" with the title "Miss" in the Description". If, later still, she turns out to be "Judith Ann" then we go back to change all the "J A"s to "Judith Ann".

Similarly, a named person may seem to fulfil more than 1 role (say both Inspector & Board Member). If it is clear what the role is then that is the Person Type listed. However, if there is no indication of what role that person is fulfilling, then the Person Type is one which is the most common for that person.

As you can see, there is a fair amount of "assessment" of the data, rather than us following the usual "Key what you See". Typically, the pages for each school may have been transcribed by a number of members of the team, but, before being added to the database, they are all grouped together & rationalised by one person to get as much consistency as possible. There are occasions when we can't be sure that "Miss Milner" is the same person as "J A Milner". A surprising number of sisters taught in the same schools. Where there is doubt, "Miss" has been left as a forename. This means that you may well want to request transcriptions for both (fore) named people as well as those with just a title.

Because, quite often, we only know the surname & gender of an individual (eg Miss Milner), when using the database for your research don't rely on us knowing the forename - it's best to search for all people with the surname you are interested in & looking to see if your person is there.

Another aspect is that some people were involved with more than 1 school - particularly the officials such as the Attendance Officers & the Inspectors who may appear in multiple schools.

So, the way to get the best out of these transcriptions is :-

- If you can, go to the Research Room to look at the data & the page images.
- Failing that, use the Transcription Index on the website & look for the surname only, under the event type "School Log".
- Remember that your person may appear under more than 1 school, so, in those cases, make sure that you request individual searches for each.
- Once you have the list of entries for your person, you can get an image of the actual page, if you want it, by E-mailing a request, with school & page no., to our Search Coordinator.

### **Future Development & Progress.**

As you will have read in our earlier Newsletters, we have grouped the schools concerned geographically, and will publish a CD for each of the 3 groups, as the schools there are completed. However, for members, the completed schools will be added to the database & indexes monthly & so you will be able to access these in the ways described above well before we publish any CDs. The new schools being added will be listed in each month's Newsletter.

This is a massive project, so the more transcribers we have on the team the quicker it will be completed. We already have a dedicated team of between 15 & 20 transcribers, who are currently working extremely hard but we can always use more. So if you feel you can help please contact Peter Lord at [projects@cfhsweb.com](mailto:projects@cfhsweb.com) & he will get you started. All you need is a fairly modern computer, a broadband internet connection & the ability to read .pdf files (Adobe Reader is generally on most people's computers). There is no pressure on individuals for the amount of time they take on this project, so even just an hour or so each week is a great help.

### **Conclusion.**

We will be interested to hear from you how useful you find this new set of data, which is very different from what we have offered before. Please send your views either to our Editor at [editor@cfhsweb.com](mailto:editor@cfhsweb.com) or to our Project Coordinator at [projects@cfhsweb.com](mailto:projects@cfhsweb.com)

**Peter Lord - Project Coordinator**

## **Background to the School Logs Transcription Project.**

As you will have seen from the Project Update, elsewhere in this Scrivener, we are progressing well with the transcription of details from the many School Logs in Calderdale.

It is of particular interest to read about the background to why School Logs existed at all in the 19th & early 20th centuries, and one of our Transcription Team, Mark Harrey, has done some fascinating research into the matter.

Below is a summary that he has produced from the material that he has found on the subject. Not only is it of interest in its own right, but it helps researchers put the results of our project in context.

Our thanks are due to Mark for his work on putting all this together.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Logs cover a period up to the first world war when the education system was undergoing significant change.

Every school was required to keep a logbook to record factual information about the running of the school, and these provide a detailed snapshot of what was happening within the school system and why. To get the most out of the exercise it is helpful to understand something of the background to these changes to be able to put the log entries into context.

In 1858 a Royal Commission chaired by the Duke of Newcastle, investigated the rising level of public expenditure on education. Newcastle's report, published in 1861, recommended that a grant should be paid in respect of every child who, having attended an elementary school, passed an examination in reading, writing and arithmetic: essentially a system of "payment by results".

As a result, a provision was introduced by the Committee of Council on Education into the Revised Code for 1862 (often called 'Lowe's Code' after the Committee's vice-president who devised it) stipulating that every scholar for whom grants were claimed must be examined according to one of six 'standards' in reading, writing and arithmetic - 'reading a short paragraph in a newspaper; writing similar matter from dictation; working sums in practice and fractions'. Classes in the senior department were named Standards I to VI, roughly corresponding to ages 7 to 12. After this, schools could claim 4s a year for each pupil with a satisfactory attendance record. An addi-

tional 8s was paid if the pupil passed examinations in reading, writing and arithmetic.

Lowe pointed out that this system would help protect the public money being spent on education. As he said in the House of Commons: "If it is not cheap, it shall be efficient, if it is not efficient, it shall be cheap."

Right from the start there was much opposition to these arrangements. Teachers objected, partly to the method of testing, but mainly to the principle of 'payment by results' because it linked money for schools with the criterion of a minimum standard. Thus the higher primary work which was beginning to appear before 1861 in the best elementary schools was seriously discouraged by Lowe's Code. The curriculum became largely restricted to the three Rs, and the only form of practical instruction that survived was needlework.

Every year Her Majesty's Inspectors (HMIs) visited each school to test pupils in reading, writing and arithmetic. Teachers, whose salaries normally depended on the size of the grant, were tempted to change their approach to education. In many schools, teachers concentrated exclusively on preparing the children for the yearly HMI visit. This system of paying grants based on performance continued until 1897.

Over the following thirty years (from 1862) the initial strict conditions were gradually relaxed: more freedom of classification was allowed and tests were made more flexible. From about 1892 the standards system began to fall into disuse and it was finally abandoned by the Board of Education around the turn of the century. Meanwhile, the growth of public interest in education, persuaded the Education Department to expand the curriculum of elementary schools. The Code of 1871, for example, provided for a special grant for each individual scholar who passed a satisfactory examination in not more than two 'specific' subjects of secular instruction beyond the three Rs. At the same time the list of specific subjects was extended to include foreign languages, various branches of pure and applied science, or any definite subject of instruction extending over the classes to be examined in Standards IV, V, and VI.

In 1875, a further step was taken by the introduction of 'class' subjects - grammar, geography, history and plain needlework - for which additional grant was paid. Later Codes, especially that of 1880, extended the list of these class subjects which, if taught at all, had to be taught throughout the whole school above Standard I.

The curriculum of an elementary school from 1875 to the later 1890s thus consisted of three main parts:

*Obligatory subjects:*

the three Rs ('the elementary subjects') with needlework for girls;

*Optional subjects:*

class subjects (for the whole school above Standard I); and

specific subjects for individual scholars in Standards IV to VI.

The provisions in the 1876 and 1880 Education Acts regarding attendance byelaws had the indirect effect of producing a very considerable increase in the number of children who remained at school up to and beyond the age of 13. To meet the needs of these pupils a seventh standard was added in 1882.

One of the things that strikes new transcribers to the Log Books is the continual emphasis on "Examining & Testing the Registers", visits by HM Inspectors, sometimes without notice, visits by members of the School Board, and examining and correcting classwork and spot tests by the Principal Teacher. What becomes clear is that this was very much to do with money: it was essential to accurately record numbers of pupils and their attendance record, and to ensure that pupils were prepared adequately for testing by the Inspectors, to ensure that the most grant aid was paid to the School Board.

The Revised Code of 1862, which provided the basis from which later Codes followed, provided that *Aid to maintain schools is given by grants to the managers conditional upon the attendance and proficiency of the scholars, the qualifications of the teachers, and the state of the schools*. The following items are from the Code, but bold emphasis is mine.

The role and authority of HM Inspectors of Schools (HMI) were crucial. No grant could be made to schools which were not open to inspection by HMI. The inspectors were not to interfere with the religious instruction, discipline, or management of schools, but were **employed to verify the fulfilment of the conditions on which grants were made, to collect information, and to report the results**. No annual grant would be paid, **except on a report from the inspector**, after a periodical visit, showing that the conditions of the grant had been fulfilled.

At the end of each year, the managers of schools could claim:

the sum of 4s. per scholar according to the average number in attendance throughout the year, but for every scholar who had attended more than 200 morning or afternoon meetings of their school:- if more than six years of age 8s., subject to examination, or if under six years of age 6s. 6d., **subject to a report by the inspector** that such children were instructed suitably to their age, and in a manner not to interfere with the instruction of the older children.

The financial penalty for pupils not satisfying the Inspector could be significant: every scholar, for whom 8s. was claimed, would **forfeit 2s. 8d. for failure to satisfy the inspector in reading, and 2s. 8d. in writing, and 2s. 8d. in arithmetic.**

Every scholar for whom the grants dependent upon examination were claimed had to be examined according to one of the following standards,

|                   | <i>Standard I</i>   | <i>Standard II</i>   | <i>Standard III</i>   |
|-------------------|---|--|---|
| <i>Reading</i>    | <i>Narrative in monosyllables</i>   | <i>One of the Narratives next in order after monosyllables in an elementary reading book used in the school.</i> | <i>A short paragraph from an elementary reading book used in the school.</i>                    |
| <i>Writing</i>    | <i>Form on blackboard or slate, from dictation, letters, capital and small, manuscript.</i>   | <i>Copy in manuscript character a line of print.</i>   | <i>A sentence from the same paragraph, slowly read once, and then dictated in single words.</i> |
| <i>Arithmetic</i> | <i>Form on blackboard or slate, from dictation, figures up to 20; name at sight figures up to 20; add and subtract figures up to 10, orally, from examples on blackboard.</i> | <i>A sum in simple addition or subtraction, and the multiplication table.</i>                                    |   |



|                   | <i>Standard IV</i>   | <i>Standard V</i>   | <i>Standard VI</i>  |
|-------------------|--|---|---|
| <i>Reading</i>    | <i>A short paragraph from a more advanced reading book used in the school.</i>                                   | <i>A few lines of poetry from a reading book used in the first class of the school.</i>                                     | <i>A short ordinary paragraph in a newspaper, or other modern narrative.</i>  |
| <i>Writing</i>    | <i>A sentence slowly dictated once by a few words at a time, from the same book, but not the same paragraph.</i> | <i>A sentence slowly dictated once by a few words at a time, from a reading book used in the first class of the school.</i> | <i>Another short ordinary paragraph in a newspaper, or other modern narrative, slowly dictated once by a few words at a time.</i> |
| <i>Arithmetic</i> | <i>A sum in compound rules (money).</i>  | <i>A sum in compound rules (common weights and measures).</i>   | <i>A sum in practice or bills of parcels.</i>   |

In addition to being penalised financially for failing to prove to the Inspector the “proficiency of the scholars”, the grant could also be reduced, or even withheld altogether, for causes arising out of the state of the school.

The grant was to be **reduced**:- by not less than one-tenth nor more than one-half in the whole, **upon the inspector's report**, for faults of instruction or discipline on the part of the teacher, or for the school to fail to provide proper furniture, books, maps, and other apparatus of elementary instruction.

The grant was to be **withheld** altogether:-

1. If the school was not held in a building **certified by the inspector** to be healthy, properly lighted, drained, and ventilated, supplied with offices, and containing in the principal school-room at least 80 cubical feet of internal space for each child in average attendance.
2. If the principal teacher was not duly certificated and duly paid.

3. If the girls in the school were not taught plain needlework as part of the ordinary course of instruction.
4. **If the registers were not kept with sufficient accuracy to warrant confidence in the returns.**

Every school receiving an annual grant had to keep, besides the ordinary registers of attendance, a **diary or log-book**. This is what we are transcribing.

The Code provided that the diary or log-book must be stoutly bound and contain not less than 500 ruled pages.

The principal teacher (in charge of each Department in the School, rather than the Head Teacher of the School as a whole) was to **“daily make in the log-book the briefest entry which will suffice to specify either ordinary progress, or whatever other fact concerning the school or its teachers, such as the dates of withdrawals, commencements of duty, cautions, illness, etc., may require to be referred to at a future time, or may otherwise deserve to be recorded.”** No reflections or opinions of a general character were to be entered.

This is why there are continual references to teachers starting duties at the School, being absent, or terminating their engagement at the School, as well as providing evidence of the numerous visits by HMI or member of the School Board and so on.

The inspector was to call for the log-book at his annual visit, and would report whether it appeared to have been properly kept throughout the year.

Annual Staff Lists were recorded in the Log Book and certified by the secretary of the managers, in our case usually the Clerk to the School Board. The Inspector was required to see entries accounting for any change in the staff during the year.

The Logs were also to contain a summary of the Inspector's report at the end of each School Year.

The log book's principal purpose was to record, as mentioned previously, the attendance and proficiency of the scholars, the qualifications of the teachers, and the state of the school. Nevertheless, there are interesting entries that help to provide a flavour or colour

of what it was actually like to be in or at one of these schools. Some entries that caught my attention are:

March 21 1890: sent a child home to get washed. Mother came to school and used abusive language.

April 1890: during the month the children & parents have been very tiresome. Have had many abusive mothers to contend with. Gave order to the caretaker not to allow the parents to come further than the bottom of the steps.

January 10 1908: gave a Magic Lantern exhibition to the Junior Girls and Infants in the Junior Dept. this afternoon, during school hours. Subject, A Visit to London followed by laughable pictures. Permission obtained from the Secretary.

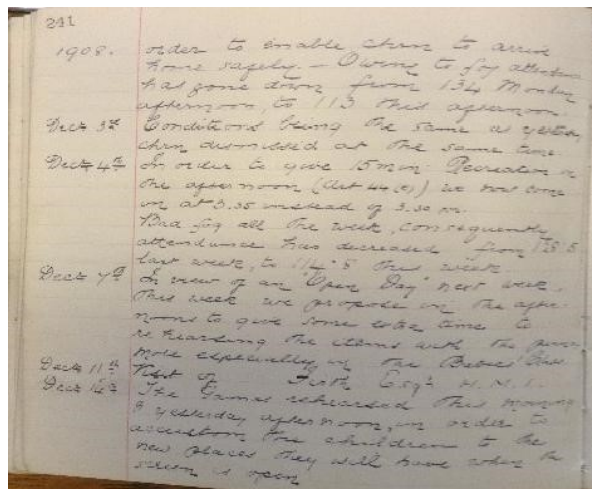
May 22 1908: assembled the two Departments & addressed the children as to their duties as citizens of the Empire & sang the National Anthem.

**Mark Harrey**

**Recommended further reading**, and from which parts of the above are gratefully acknowledged:

Gillard D (2011) *Education in England: a brief history*

[www.educationengland.org.uk/history](http://www.educationengland.org.uk/history)



## **Genfair usage - are you confused ?**

A number of people have mentioned recently that they find the use of Genfair quite confusing when trying either to order products from us or when renewing their membership.

Here are a couple of tips to help you find our pages easily on the site [www.genfair.co.uk](http://www.genfair.co.uk) :-

1. The quickest way to find all our products is to "click" "Suppliers" on the link in the centre of the Home Page, in the 2nd paragraph under the heading "The "One-Stop Shop".....". The image on the next page shows you the screen referred to.

The next screen shows a list of Suppliers in alphabetical sequence - you will find us as the 2nd entry under "C". Click on our Society name & you will be taken to our product pages.

2. If you are only interested in the "download" products, click on the link "downloads" , 11th item down on the LHS of the screen shown on the next page.

When you select the county you want, use "Yorkshire", as this is how our products are labelled, rather than "West Yorkshire" or "Yorkshire (west riding)"

We hope that these notes help you to use this resource. If you have any further queries about Genfair, please contact

**Peter Lord at [systems@cfhsweb.com](mailto:systems@cfhsweb.com)**

[File](#)
[Edit](#)
[View](#)
[Favourites](#)
[Tools](#)
[Help](#)

[First direct Internet Bankin...](#)
[World of Solitaire Kiondi...](#)
[USER'S GUIDE](#)
[Acet Accessory Store](#)
[NS&U - Premium Bonds pr...](#)

[GENfair](#)

[Home](#)
[Suppliers](#)
[My Basket](#)
[Help](#)
[Useful Links](#)
[Contact Us](#)

[Login / Register](#)

[Like](#)
[+1](#)

[Convert](#)
[Tools](#)

[Select](#)

[The One-Stop Shop for Family Historians](#)

[Providing a Service for Family Histo Societies](#)

Special Offers

Archival Storage

Atlases & Maps

Books

Census

Transcript Index Images

Charts

Directories

CDs

DVDs

Downloads

Gifts

Magazines

Military Records

Army Navy War

Monumental Ins.

National Burial Index 3

Parish Records

Software

Roots Magic

Family Tree Maker

Family Historian

Wills

Read about this new monthly online periodical

*Barrow* **Ancestors**

Read on your PC, Tablet or Mobile just £1 a month!

Welcome to GENfair™

The "One-Stop Shop" for Family and Local Historians

To begin, click the links to the left or search for a product using the search box above. You can also search by county by clicking on the map.

Selecting the local family history society from the Suppliers will give you even more specialist products.

Browse tens of thousands of family history products from hundreds of suppliers.

The largest range of products covering the British Isles.

If you are a supplier with family history related products and are interested in joining GENfair, then please contact us for further information.

Have you visited Roots-Forum yet? It's the place to go to chat with fellow family historians who can help break down your brick walls.

Click on a County to Search for Products

[http://www.thegenealogist.co.uk/content/data\\_mags.htm/](#)

17:29  
22/07/2017

## **A Sermon on Remembrance Sunday**

**by Alan Riley**

I never had the opportunity to meet my Uncle Herbert. He was killed in action in France on 4 November 1918, just one week before the armistice. He was twenty-one years of age. His body was never recovered, probably blown into fragments by one of the millions of shells which rained down on the trenches and troops of both sides. His name is recorded at Vis-en-Artois, one of those immaculately maintained cemeteries of northern France. Almost ten thousand names are listed on a memorial to those who fell in that region in the final three months of the war and have no known grave.

That staggering figure does at least emphasize my snippet of family history is not unusual. It is a common factor in so many family records of a hundred years' ago. Three quarters of a million men from this land lost their lives in those four years of war. Hundreds were killed in just the last few days of the hostilities, and thousands died well after the armistice through wounds they had suffered and were unable to overcome. Still, you might agree that my uncle was unlucky not to have held out for a further seven days.

Amongst those killed on that same day was Lieutenant Wilfred Owen. Posthumously, he became known as the foremost poet of the First World War. He dared to tell it how it really was; all the shocking horrors of the trenches and gas warfare; quite contrary to public perception. His truthfulness has endured.

Whilst being treated for shell shock at Craiglockhart War Hospital in Scotland, Owen met Siegfried Sassoon, a fellow poet who became his friend and mentor. Both, later returned to the front line in France. Sassoon, already the holder of the Military Cross, got through with a head wound which resulted in him spending the remainder of the war in Britain. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Owen was awarded the Military Cross for "conspicuous courage and devotion to duty".

My uncle Herbert shared those dreadful experiences of battle but from the ranks. Although he could just about write, his letters certainly did not contain poetry, memorable or otherwise. He was an overlooker in a spinning mill and had started work as a part-timer when he was only twelve years' of age. This wasn't undertaken to gain work experience but through sheer financial necessity. The mornings from 6am were spent at the mill and afternoons at school.

Grim as that sounds, I feel sure he would have been happy to return to the long hours and mundane, tedious duties of the mill when it was all over. The deafening noise of the spinning mill would have been a peaceful haven after the incessant barrage in the trenches.

He had not rushed to volunteer but was caught up just before his nineteenth birthday about the time conscription was introduced. After training, he joined his regiment (2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> West Riding Reg. – Duke of Wellington's ) in France in December 1916. Just four months later he was hospitalized with a gunshot wound to the leg and later convalesced in Halifax. Back in France from October 1917 he managed to avoid further damage until May 1918. Then, as for thousands of others, came gas poisoning. He was a month receiving treatment at Malling VAD Hospital. Newspapers at the time filled their pages with accounts of local servicemen and the Halifax Courier was no exception. It printed:

*" Pte HL Riley.....is in hospital in Kent. He arrived in England this week from France, where he had been in hospital suffering from severe gas shell poisoning. The hospital was one of those attacked in the recent air raid, and the patients had to be removed. He was gassed on April 25<sup>th</sup>, and curiously enough he was wounded on the same date the previous year". (well the reporter thought it "curious" I doubt if Herbert did ) ..... "He is 20 years' of age, and before joining up worked for Messrs Clayton, Murgatroyd, and Co. Ltd. He was also a Sunday School scholar at St Augustine's and his name is on the roll of honour there."*

Although twice wounded, Herbert was ordered back to the front line after convalescence. His younger brother, my father, never forgot that last sight of Herbert leaving their home, tears falling from his eyes. War was for him no great adventure and he no super hero. Perhaps, he shared those feelings with many others who were directed back to the trenches. He rejoined his unit on 1 November and lost his life just three days later.

His mother, Mary, had been a widow for nine years. One of her sons had died soon after birth. Another, Edwin Eli, had been killed in a mill accident only five months after his father's death. He had fallen down a hoist well at the Battinson Road mill of Stott & Ingham. Only 16 years old he had already been in their employment for four years. Now, yet another tragedy struck the family home.

Few can respond to such harrowing events with equanimity. Mary was no exception, this further bereavement made her bitter. Perhaps she asked the age old question, "Why me?" When she

received that dreaded telegram of condolence it was screwed-up and thrown on to the fire. It would not have consoled her to be told that her grief was also being experienced by the highest and lowest in the land, although it certainly was and had been for centuries. War claims its victims from the talented as well as the ordinary and from all social classes. The historian, A.J.P. Taylor, pointed out that in the First World War casualties were three times heavier, in proportion, amongst junior officers than they were in the other ranks. He said: "This struck at the highest in the land, Asquith lost his eldest son and Bonar Law lost two sons." As we know, one had been the Prime Minister at the outbreak of the war and the other attained that position a few years afterwards.

Wilfred Owen certainly did not come from those 'higher' levels of society but it was still quite different from Herbert's. Although Wilfred passed the matriculation exam for the University of London, he failed to gain a scholarship and consequently his parents could not afford to allow him to proceed.

Despite their social differences, because of the war, Wilfred and Herbert had shared and suffered similar experiences - and so did their parents! They had to bear the lasting heartache of losing a son. We need to remember on this day that behind every so called 'statistic' of battle there is a person who is loved and mourned.

The Old Testament records many wars and battles – rather too many some might claim. One lesser known story, however, has always remained in my memory. After the death of King Saul a civil war broke out which divided Israel. At the pool of Gibeon a fierce battle was fought between Saul's son and David's troops which were commanded by Joab.

Joab had his two brothers alongside him and the younger one, Asahel, was no more than a boy. With the brashness of youth, Asahel challenged Abner, commander of the opposing forces to personal combat. This was not to be a repeat performance of David and Goliath. The lad was no match for the tried warrior and he was run through with a spear.

When they were recording the casualties of the war, the writer makes this significant statement: "*And when Joab had gathered all the people together, there lacked of David's servants nineteen men – and Asahel.*" (2 Sam. 2:30). Someone was remembering not just a war or a statistic but a dear loved one, with a name. Herbert's regiment maintained a war diary and for that day, 4 November



1918, the name of each officer killed was recorded but the other ranks were covered with the words "and lost 4 other ranks".

Wilfred and Herbert were mourned by families, in many respects quite different families. I have read that Wilfred's parents received the sad news on Armistice Day; there's irony in that. It is quite likely my Grandmother received her telegram on that same day. Ever afterwards, as for that writer in the Old Testament, the losses of war would remain so personal:

"Nineteen men - and Asahel".

4 November 1918, hundreds of men and Herbert Riley....  
and Wilfred Owen...and....and.... and...

May they all rest in peace and may we never fail to remember them.



Herbert in convalescence, he is to the right of the picture and directly to the left of the nurse.

## **CALDERDALE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

**2017 AUTUMN MEETINGS ~ Thursdays 7:30pm.**

**At The Shibden Room, North Bridge Leisure Centre**

**28th September**

**Isobel Stirk ~ Writers in the 1st World War**

In her talk, Isobel Stirk aims to show that writers at that time were writing from experience and how those experiences changed the way some of them felt about the war and how they hoped that their writings would bring the actualities of the conflict to the people who read them.

They endeavoured to change people's opinions about the war in poems, articles and accounts. The lecture also tells of the background the writers came from and the circumstances in which they wrote.

**September**

Day Trip cancelled

**26th October**

**W.J.Taylor ~ Lost in Lusitania**

In my early years I accompanied my mother to the Liverpool Anglican Cathedral, where we always scrutinised a glass case with an opened Memorial volume in the forlorn hope that the name of one her relatives would be displayed. Many years later research into the family by marriage of my mother's uncle led me to the sinking of the Lusitania to the events leading to the torpedoing and the aftermath and a viewing of the Memorial volume some 70 years after the foundering.

**23rd November**

**Stephen Moorhouse ~ Medieval River Systems and  
Ports of Yorkshire**



View our website at [www.cfhsweb.com](http://www.cfhsweb.com)

and visit

**Calderdale Family History Society's**

**RESEARCH ROOM**

**Brighthouse Library**

**Rydings Park, Halifax Rd., Brighthouse, 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](http://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:

|                   | <b>Morning</b>             | <b>Afternoon</b>       |
|-------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Monday:</b>    |                            | <b>2 pm to 4.30 pm</b> |
| <b>Tuesday:</b>   |                            | <b>2 pm to 4.30 pm</b> |
| <b>Wednesday:</b> | <b>10 am to 12.30 pm</b>   | <b>2 pm to 4.30 pm</b> |
| <b>Thursday:</b>  |                            | <b>2 pm to 4.30 pm</b> |
| <b>Friday:</b>    | <b>10.30 am to 1.00 pm</b> |                        |
| <b>Saturday:</b>  |                            | <b>2 pm to 4.30 pm</b> |

**Our telephone number is 01484 859229** and details of all our activities and how to join can be found at [www.hdfhs.org.uk](http://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](http://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, Halifax HX1 1UN  
Tel: +44 (0) 1422 392636 e-mail [calderdale@wyjs.org.uk](mailto:calderdale@wyjs.org.uk)

**WYAS Headquarters, Newstead Road, Wakefield WF1 2DE** (*Registers, WRiding Registry of Deeds, Manorial Records etc.*)  
Tel: +44 (0) 1924 305980 email : [wakefield@wyjs.org.uk](mailto:wakefield@wyjs.org.uk)

**The Borthwick Institute ~ [www.york.ac.uk/inst/bihrl/](http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/bihrl/)** (*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](mailto: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/](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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 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.

### **The Federation of Family History Societies**

web site [www.ffhs.org.uk](http://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.

### **AUSTRALASIA**

To celebrate National Family History Month in Australasia, the Federation of Family History Societies has updated *Our Australasian Really Useful Information Leaflet*. You can download it for free, here:

**<http://www.ffhs.org.uk/tips/RUL-Aus-2017-0809.pdf>**

### **FFHS Conference - Beyond the Census II**

Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission, City Road, London, EC1Y 1AU

Saturday 30th September from 10.30am – 4.30pm (GMT)

This one-day conference will broaden and deepen your understanding of family history research.

Speakers include Ian Waller, Martin McDowell, Meryl Catty and Nick Barratt.

The cost of this Seminar is £12.00 Capacity is limited to 100. Please Book Early to avoid disappointment, using the link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ffhs-beyond-the-census-conference-2-tickets-36143301588>

### **Northamptonshire archives - safe for now**

Enthusiastic campaigning by family historians and others has halted the plan by Northamptonshire County Council to cut free afternoon access to its record office and impose sky-high charges for much of the week.

After ten days of lobbying, including features on BBC Radio Northampton, the County Council has backed down. It has restored most of the cuts in free access hours and scrapped the plans to charge people £31.50 per hour just to use the search room. Visit the record office website to see the revised opening hours. (Sorry, I don't have the web address. Editor)

*Calderdale Family History Society*  
*Incorporating Halifax and District*

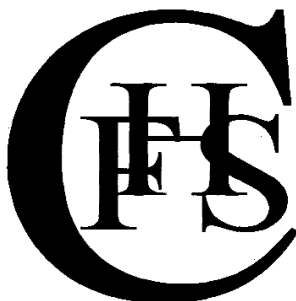
**Officers and Co-ordinators of the Society**

| <b>Officer and Name,</b>   | <b>Address and E-mail</b>  | <b>Tel. No.</b> |
|--|--|-----------------|
| <b>President</b>   |  |                 |
| Mr. Barrie Crossley,   | 9, Victoria Terr., Delph Hill Road, Halifax, HX2 7ED<br>e-mail - president@cfhsweb.com           | 01422-366931    |
| <b>Chairman</b>  |  |                 |
| Mr. Clifford Drake,  | 22, Well Grove, Hove Edge, Brighouse, HD6 2LT<br>e-mail - chairman@cfhsweb.com                   | 01484-714311    |
| <b>Secretary</b>   |  |                 |
| Mrs. Margaret Smith,   | 4 Rawson Avenue, Halifax, HX3 0JP<br>e-mail - secretary@cfhsweb.com                              | 01422 -345164   |
| <b>Treasurer</b>   |  |                 |
| Mr. Peter Lord,  | 288 Halifax Road, Hove Edge, Brighouse, HD6 2PB<br>e-mail - treasurer@cfhsweb.com                | 01484-718576    |
| <b>Membership Secretary</b>  |  |                 |
| Mrs. Susan Clarke,   | 33, Cumberland Ave., Fixby, Huddersfield, HD2 2JJ<br>e-mail - membsec@cfhsweb.com                | 01484-304426    |
| <b>Publications Officer (sales of books, CDs, etc.)</b>                        |  |                 |
| Mrs. Joan Drake,   | 22, Well Grove, Hove Edge, Brighouse, HD6 2LT<br>e-mail - publications@cfhsweb.com               | 01484-714311    |
| <b>Editor ~ Scrivener (for submission of articles, letters, etc.)</b>          |  |                 |
| Mrs. Frances Stubbs,   | Beech Trees, Hollybush Close, Potten End,<br>Berkhamsted, HP4 2SN<br>e-mail - editor@cfhsweb.com | 01442-871847    |
| <b>Enquiry Service Co-ordinator (for research queries and search requests)</b> |  |                 |
| Mrs. Susan Lord  | 288 Halifax Road, Hove Edge, Brighouse, HD6 2PB<br>e-mail - search@cfhsweb.com                   | 01484 718576    |
| <b>Research Room Co-ordinator (for information about room at The Rydings)</b>  |  |                 |
| Vacant   | e-mail -researchroom@cfhsweb.com   |                 |

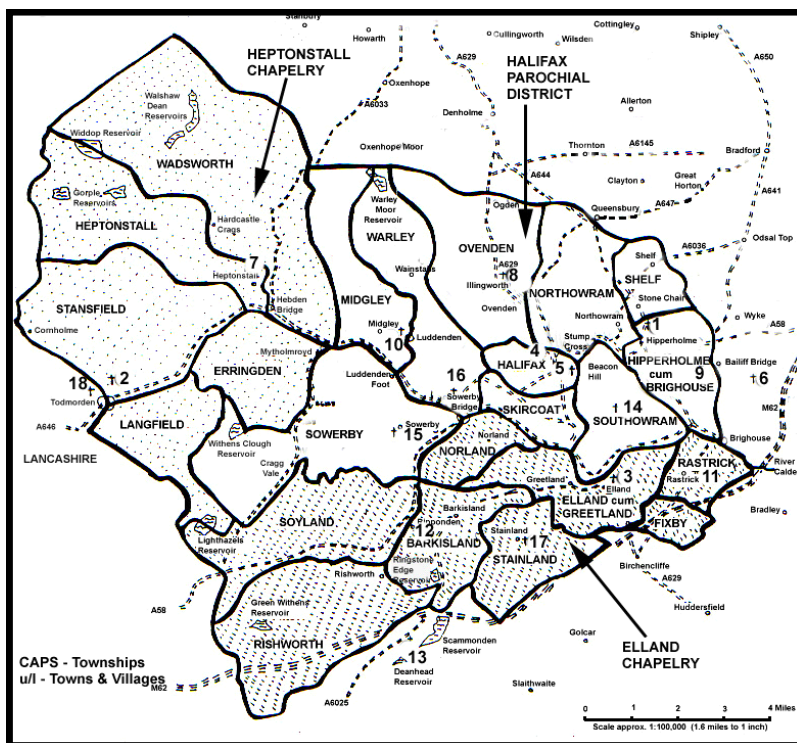
**[RR Bookings and Information Tues pm/Thurs am 07952-211986]**

| <b>Officer and Name,</b>               | <b>Address and E-mail</b>   | <b>Tel. No.</b> |
|--|---|-----------------|
| <b>Projects Co-ordinator</b>           |   |                 |
| Mr. Peter Lord,                        | 288 Halifax Road, Hove Edge, Brighouse, HD6 2PB<br>e-mail - projects@cfhsweb.com                  | 01484 718576    |
| <b>Webmaster</b>                       |   |                 |
| Mr. Keith Pitchforth,                  | 10 Hallam Grange Road, Sheffield, S Yorks, S10 4BJ<br>e-mail - webmaster@cfhsweb.com              | 0114-2307685    |
| <b>Assistant Webmaster</b>             |   |                 |
| Pam Newby,                             | Email - webassistant@cfhsweb.com  |                 |
| <b>Strays Co-ordinator</b>             |   |                 |
| Mrs. Dorothy Hunt,                     | Springfield House, Whitehall Green, Halifax, HX2 9UQ<br>e-mail - strays@cfhsweb.com               |                 |
| <b>Librarian</b>                       |   |                 |
| Mrs. Anne Kirker,                      | 356, Oldham Rd. Sowerby Bridge, Halifax HX6 4QU<br>e-mail - librarian@cfhsweb.com                 | 01422 - 823966  |
| <b>Members' Interests Co-ordinator</b> |   |                 |
| Mr. Mike Hardcastle,                   | Cedarwood, The Grange, Huddersfield Road,<br>Brighouse, HD6 3RH<br>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<br>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.