



Friends of Berwick & District Museum and Archives Newsletter



NUMBER 36 – September 2002

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 29th September 2002

VOLUNTEERS WANTED for field work at BONDINGTON, Please meet at Paxton Road, the last turn left at the end of Castle Terrace (opposite the old Bible College) at 10.30 a.m. Bring a packed lunch.

Conducted tour of the Bondington area by Alan Williams assisted by Bondington Project Steering Group members.

Excavation of a small area of the field, next to Cheviot House, which has been identified as having possible ancient settlement.

Friday 4th October 2002

Autumn Lecture : Use of the Berwick Archive

Guildhall, Berwick at 7.00pm

A talk by Doreen Grove on using the Archives for her research on Berwick's Fortifications.

Other Societies' Lectures

Belford Local History Society

Venue: Meeting Room, Belford Community Centre Time: 7.30 p.m.

Wed. 25th September 2002 The Ghosts of Featherstone Castle: Mr J.M. Clark

Wed. 23rd October 2002 On the Edge of Empire – Life on Hadrian's Wall:
Mr J. Patterson.

Wed. 27th November 2002 Mandell Crieghton of Embleton: Mr D. Malthouse

Wed. 11th December 2002 Christmas Party at Market House: by kind permission
of Mr. & Mrs. Renner-Thompson.

Border Archaeological Society

Venue: Parish Centre, Berwick. Time: 7.00 p.m.

Wed. 7th October 2002 An Update on Berwick Archaeology: Caroline
Hardy.

Wed. 4th November 2002 Roman and Native in Northern Britain: Fraser
Hunter.

Wed. 2nd December 2002 Review of Work 2002: Members Night.

Berwick History Society

Venue: The Parish Centre, Berwick. Time: 7.30 p.m.

Wed. 16th October 2002 Berwick and the Borders: Alistair Moffat.

Wed. 13th November 2002 Berwick-upon-Tweed and Three Kings 1333:
Dr. Richard Lomas.

(NB:Joint Meeting with Civic Society at the Kings Arms on 2nd Wed. of month)

Wed. 18th December 2002 St. Cuthbert in Myth and History: Canon Kate
Tristram.

Coldstream & District Local History Society

Venue: Eildon Centre, Coldstream.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Thurs.3rd October 2002 The Merse Troop, The Berwickshire Jacobites
1715 : Mr Francis Cowe.

Thurs. 7th November 2002 The Coal Mines of the Scremerston Triangle:
Mr David Heywood.

Thurs 5th December 2002 A Royal Occasion: Cheese and Wine Members
Night (Please bring Royal Memorabilia)

Dunse History Society

Venue: Duns Social Club, 41 Newton St, Duns.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Wed.25th September 2002 A History of Dunse Lodge: Ramsay Brack
followed by Annual General Meeting.

Wed.23rd October 2002 A History of the Clan Hay - coupled with a
display of medieval weaponry: Andrew Spratt

Wed. 27th November 2002 Robert Burns in the Borders: Archie McArthur

Embleton Local History Society

Venue: Parish Church Room, Embleton.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Wed. 16th October 2002 Creating a Museum: Ian Smith
(NB: Meeting at Bailiffgate Museum)

Wed.20th November 2002 Local Farming in the Last Century: Mr Scott
Smith O.B.E.

Berwick's M.P.s, including the present one;
Rt. Hon. Alan Beith.

Sat. 14th December 2002

Christmas Buffet Lunch at the White Swan.

ARCHIVE NEWS

Well, this year is flying by and I'm not quite sure where it is going.

Needless to say, because it is the summer, the Record Office has been very busy on its public days. I think my record this summer is 34 people in one day signing the visitors' book never mind people who come in to drop things off, etc. A lot of people are tracing their Family History or the history of their house but not everyone. In June, a Professor from Canada came in and spent two days looking through the old newspapers to find out about emigration from this area to New Brunswick in Canada (see Eric's article). He left me a copy of the Monumental Inscriptions for the graveyard for Harvey settlement which contains a lot of people from the Wooler area. It is available for anyone to consult. The other topics which have been researched have included precautions against the plague in 1665 and the history of Chatton village.

As well as the public service, my non open days have been filled with lots of other activities. I have continued to work with schools – during their last week of term, pupils from the High School were involved in a project week. One of the projects was looking at crime in Berwick and as part of this, a group spent a morning in the Record Office finding out about the Grace Griffen and transportation cases. On the same day, I also had a group from Longhoughton First School – 5 year olds – who were visiting Berwick for the day. They came into the office to look at an old map, postcards and the strongroom. It was amazing how much they got out of the visit and how much they actually absorbed about looking after archives.

Work on the Bondington Project continues. The Steering group had an archaeological walk around the Castle Terrace area and this will be followed up by an open walk in that area on 29 September (see dates for your diary). David Brenchley and I have also set up two historical research groups. My group is looking at the Castle Terrace/ North Road area in the past 200 years and David's is concentrating on the medieval period. If anyone is interested in helping either of us, please let me know.

The other major project I am involved in is Union of the Crowns 400 (see Derek's report). I have been helping the Friends appoint the Project Officer as well as supporting Derek in his work. If anyone would like to help with the project in any way and wasn't able to attend the public meeting, please let me or Derek know. Any help the Friends can give would be very welcome.

As autumn is approaching, it is time for adult education classes to start. I am teaching two 5 week Family History for Beginners courses in the Record Office for Northumberland College. When they are finished, I will also be starting a Family History and the Internet course in Wooler. If this one is successful, we hope to run other courses throughout the Borough.

Finally, I have also been involved with the Open Doors weekend which is run in conjunction with the Civic Society. As usual, I have given some guided tours of the Council Offices which was the old Gaol. In a morning I took around about 100 people

FAMILY HISTORY

Internet access to the 1901 is finally available again but for a limited period only to test the system and only between 9am and 7pm. I have one computer with Internet access which can be used but it is probably better to go to the Library and use their computers. The free search does work but the information it provides is very limited if you are looking for someone you have lost – it will tell you a civil parish but no more. Obviously, if that leads researchers to a place in Northumberland, Newcastle or North Shields, it is possible to then look at the original returns here in this Office.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help index the 1901 census. After a slow start, I have finally got most of the copies I requested from Morpeth. If anyone else would like to help, just let me know. So far, we have completed, Tweedmouth, Spittal, Chatton and the Belford area and so these can now be checked on computer at the Record Office. At present, I am keeping each section separate but eventually we will amalgamate them.

Linda
Bankier.

UNION OF THE CROWNS 400

On 24th March 1603, Queen Elizabeth I died in London and the Crown of England passed to her nearest living relative, King James VI of Scotland. News of the Queen's death resulted in a brief period of anarchy on the Border: "Busy Week" as it became known. The activities of the reivers were swiftly quelled by the Berwick garrison, who were turned out again in early April, this time in a ceremonial role to welcome King James on his grand progress southwards into his new realm. The uniting of the two crowns on one head brought great changes to our area. Within a few decades, Northumberland and the Scottish Borders had been transformed from a wild and lawless territory with an economy devastated by centuries of Anglo-Scottish warfare, and was able to flourish in the forefront of the agricultural and industrial revolutions.

It is fitting, therefore, that we are perhaps the only part of the United Kingdom that is planning to commemorate this major historical event.

The Friends have offered to lead a partnership comprising various local groups and organisations, supported by Berwick Borough Council and English Heritage, with the aim of creating and delivering an exciting, varied, accessible and inclusive twelve-month programme of activities and events focusing on the themes of the Union of the Crowns, the bridging of the Border, the ending of centuries of Anglo-Scottish conflict, and the granting of the Borough Charter by King James.

Jim Herbert has created an inspired logo for the project, which was greeted with much enthusiasm at its unveiling at the public meeting held in The Maltings on 9th September

Union of the Crowns 400 will begin in early April 2003, the nearest weekend to the 400th anniversary of the visit by King James to Berwick, and will end with the early May Bank Holiday in 2004, when we shall be celebrating the granting of King James's Charter.

I have been appointed by the Friends as Project Officer for the festival. You perhaps know that I have been a professional tour guide in the Berwick area for some 14 years, and am also a part-time history tutor with the WEA. During the 30 years of my working life I have been involved with the organising of a number of festivals, exhibitions and historical re-enactments throughout the North East of England and further afield. I hope, therefore, that my experience will help us to raise awareness and understanding of Berwick's unique heritage, and bring colour, excitement and life to the splendid historical sites and settings in north Northumberland.

We also intend that the festival will foster closer relations with our neighbours in the Scottish Borders, with whom we share much common history and cultural tradition.

The Union of the Crowns 400 programme will consist of several elements.

There will be half a dozen key events including:

5th/6th April 2003 - Pageantry and processions recreating the visit by King James to Berwick at the Union of the Crowns in 1603

10th/11th May 2003- A weekend of sports and games, versions of which were played in the 17th century

19th/20th July 2003 - medieval "living history" on National Archaeology Days, marking the anniversary of the Great Siege of Berwick and Battle of Halidon Hill (1333)

16th August 2003 - An innovative version of Shakespeare's play "Hamlet", first performed in 1603

26th to 28th September 2002 - The story of Norham Castle, looking back from the Union of the Crowns which brought an end to its military career

30th April to 3rd May 2004 - A parade celebrating the 400th anniversary of the granting of the Borough Charter by King James and a Bank Holiday weekend festival including a very special Riding of the Bounds.

In addition to these major events, we shall be looking to find appropriate links with annual fairs and festivals, there will be a Festival of Sport with an England/Scotland theme, and we are inviting local groups and organisations to suggest activities and events they would like to stage to celebrate the festival themes. A substantial part of the planned budget will be made available to these groups to help them realise their plans.

As well as excitement and enjoyment for residents and visitors of all ages, the festival will provide educational opportunities and resources for local schools and adult learners. We also anticipate that our efforts will result in several long term benefits including publications, photographic and video material prepared for the Union of the Crowns project. It has been suggested that a permanent memorial of some sort should be created, and that restoration work should be carried out on the 1604 Charter.

Funding is being sought from a variety of sources, but the success of this ambitious project also depends heavily on active participation by people in the local communities.

I look forward to receiving any suggestions or comments, or practical support you may like to offer.

I can usually be contacted by telephone between 9am and 11am on weekdays on 01289 301861, or you can leave messages on 01289 330218 or e-mail me at ds@berwick-upon-tweed.gov.uk

I hope you will join me in this initiative to really put Berwick-upon-Tweed back on the map.

Derek Sharman (Union of the Crowns 400 Project Officer)

ASPECTS OF BERWICK'S CULTURAL HISTORY

The Order of the Garter

On Thursday 10th. January 1835 Berwickers settling down to enjoy the latest weekly instalment of John MacKay Wilson's *Tales of the Borders* would have read these

words:- “if tradition may be trusted, or the historian Froissard believed, but for Wark Castle and there would have been no Order of the Garter”. Then they would have read a stirring tale of how Joan, Countess of Salisbury heroically inspired her troops to defend Wark against the marauding Scots lead by David II. Then, how, as a reward, Edward III throws a banquet for her, at which she drops her garter, and the king retrieves it “with the easy unembarrassment and politeness of a practised gallant” and, observing the smirks of his courtiers, fixes it on his own leg with the famous words “Honi soit qui mal y pense” (‘Evil be to him, who evil thinks’). Wilson also has him say “Be this the order of the Garter! – and the proudest monarchs and the most valiant knights in Christendom shall be proud to be honoured with the emblem of thy garter, fair coz’.” Well, the knights might have been proud of the garter, but Jean Froissart (1337-1410) though he writes openly of the affection between Edward and the Countess, especially when the king supposedly raised the Scots siege of Wark in 1341, he does not mention the garter incident. For Froissart the Order was founded, in 1344, as a revival of the knights of the round table which, he says, King Arthur established at Windsor. The latest scholarly research on the subject, by H.Collins, agrees with both the date and the Arthurian inspiration. Collins has also uncovered financial accounts that show Edward III commissioned both a round table and a huge circular building at Windsor in which to put it. Work on this began on 16th.February 1344 but was abandoned, probably because of mounting costs, on 27th November. There is no evidence that a band of knights gathered at that time but after his victory at the battle of Crecy in 1346 Edward revived the idea of the Order. Even so it took another two years to get things organised and Collins believes the best date for the founding is 6th.August 1348 when Letters Patent were drawn up for reconstructing the St.George’s Chapel at Windsor for the use of the Order. The first Garter knights did then meet there on St.George’s Day, 1349. As for the Garter symbol itself, Collins uncovers evidence to suggest that Edward already widely used this before the Order was founded. Account rolls show it was embroidered on a doublet, cloak, hood and his blue taffeta bed hangings, and, most spectacularly on a giant banner for a ship called the *St. Lawrence*. Boringly enough of course, in the manner of modern scholarship, Collins rejects the Garter as being the Countess’, “It is hardly likely”, he says, “that Edward III, given the serious intent underlying his conception, would have risked trivialising it by selecting such an inappropriate badge”. Instead it probably is a knight’s belt with a knot symbolising the ties of loyalty and affection that bound the Order together. So whence cometh the Countess into the story?

The first historian to mention the garter tale is the Italian Polydore Vergil (1470-1555) in his *Angelica Historia* (Basel, 1534) but it seems he was only repeating something that that was already a legend in the English court of the 15th. century. The first written account of the tale, bizarrely enough, is found not in English, Latin or Italian but in Catalan. It forms chapter 85 of the epic novel of chivalric endeavour *Tirant Lo Blanc* written by Joanot Martorell (d.1468). He was a courtier who was in England between March 1438 and February 1439 on diplomatic business and clearly occupied his spare time noting down popular legends of the day. His novel also has an early version of the legend of Guy of Warwick. The garter tale he claims to have heard direct from the teenage king Henry VI.

Martorell refers to the lady involved as “one damsel named Honeysuckle” and Vergil is coy as to the identity of the woman referring to her as “the queen or one of the ladies of the king’s liking.” It is pretty certain that this does not mean the real queen, Phillipa, Edward’s wife of twenty years, but the ‘queen’ of his affections at the time.

If this was the ‘Countess of Salisbury’, there have been three separate ladies suggested. Froissart names the Countess as ‘Alice’. This would make her Alice Countess of Salisbury, Lincoln and Lancaster, who the scholar Cadwallader Bates says “alive at the time, widow of Thomas Plantagenet, of the fascinating age of ninety”. A little unlikely. Bates himself goes for Katherine de Grandison, who was the wife of William, Earl of Salisbury, then a prisoner in France. She was over thirty at the time, oldish by medieval standards, but perhaps still fascinating to Edward.

As we have seen John MacKay Wilson in 1835, following George Redpath’s *Border History* (1810), goes for the third candidate Joan Plantagenet, the ‘Fair Maid of Kent’ who was only 13 at the time. Whoever the ‘Countess’ was she was at the centre of resistance to the Scots. Contemporary accounts write of this same “Queen’ of England alias Diana”, (Joan’s badge was a white hind) as being the heroine of the hour at the battle of Neville’s Cross on 17th.October 1346 when David II was captured. She had inspired the troops and saved the north of England. A fine 15th.century manuscript of Froissart’s *Chronicles* written and decorated in Bruges shows David captured and on another folio, the battle outside Wark. The Countess is shown at the centre of armed band in both pictures clearly showing her key role was well understood in the 15th.century.

Could a teenage girl have created quite such a stir, and fascinated the King of England? We have to remember the *Chronicles* are intended as much as literature as history, the active people in the Middle Ages were often very young and thirdly, that the young knights who sallied forth with the armies had their heads full of high chivalric ideals that placed beautiful noblewomen on grandiose pedestals. In this contemporary chivalric context, idealising a 13 year old girl would be not unrealistic. Especially, as Margaret Galway has shown, when the girl had such an amazingly colourful career as Joan Plantagenet. She was a baby when her father was executed for treason only to be declared innocent a year later. Joan was adopted by Queen Phillipa and was brought up in the Royal household, two of her playmates being future husbands. When she was 12 she took a lover, Thomas Holland, but when he went off to visit Prussia she was forced into marrying William Montague, then aged 13. On his return Thomas was outraged, but could do little. As a recompense when William and Joan became, both at 15, the Count and Countess of Salisbury they took Thomas on as their household steward.

Within two years, in 1346, Edward had invaded France taking William and Thomas with him. Thomas was instantly recognisable as he sported a white silk eye-patch, one of a band of knights who had sworn nine years before that they would wear eye patches until they had performed some suitable deed of valour. After the victory at Crecy it was Thomas who listed the French noble dead by recording their coats of arms. By September the siege of Calais was underway during which Queen Phillipa famously pleaded for the hostage Burgesses to be spared. It was while all this was going on that Joan was defeating the Scots. In August 1347 Thomas Holland was part of the team that negotiating the French surrender and Joan arrived at Calais in time for

a grand victory ball. If it happened at all this was the occasion for the garter slipping. At the end of the war Thomas Holland was a wealthy man having made a fortune from ransoming captured French knights back to their families and he decided to try and win Joan back by a legal appeal to the Pope. While the case was being heard Joan, her husband and Thomas all attended Christmas court at Otford at which husband and lover fought in a Tournament for her favour. Within a year Thomas' appeal had succeeded and William lost his wife. Thomas finally married Joan. They had four children and when he died eleven years later, she, still only 32, married the Black Prince to become first Princess of Wales and the mother of the future Richard II. On St George's day 1378, wearing a scarlet mantle with blue garters, Joan was admitted as a full member of the Order of the Garter. She died in 1385.

The association of Wark with the Garter therefore is very slim. Certainly the Salisbury family owned the Castle but whether the Countess defended it against the Scots, was rescued by Edward then had a fling with him remains obscure. But is a good tale in which poets, writers and artists have found inspiration. Also it was believed sufficiently in the Victorian era for a drinking fountain to be established at Wark. It survives to this day emblazoned with the royal arms and garter motto. When this was created is doubtful, perhaps for the 500 anniversary in 1849. Significantly it is called 'Katharine's Well', so the maturer woman wins in the end.

Further Reading

Bates, C. *The Border Holds of Northumberland* (1891) vol.1, pp.331-69

Collins, H.E.L. *The Order of the Garter 1348-1461: Chivalry and Politics in Late Medieval England* (Oxford, 2000)

Froissart: *Chronicles* (Bruges, 15th.C) see: www.bnf.fr/enluminures/manuscrits

Galway, M. 'Joan of Kent and the Order of the Garter' in *University of Birmingham Historical Journal* vol.1 (1947/8) pp.13-50

Martorell, J. *Tirant lo Blanc* (translated by D.H.Rosenthal) (1984)



Chris Green.

R.C. CLEMENTS OF SPITTAL

Some of you may have seen that the Tourist Information Office has been selling postcard and poster copies of a poster used to publicise Berwick in the early 20th century. The poster was drawn by Robert Cooper Clements, a teacher at Spittal School who was killed in the First World War. Robert Clements lived in Spa Well Villas in Spittal and was survived by his wife and very young daughter. Before being called up, he had worked as Assistant Master at Spittal Council School. Although the newspaper does not mention Robert's artistic talents, he had designed two posters which were used by the Berwick Development Board to promote the town as a holiday resort just before the First World War. The posters were lithographed by Messers Burrill and Company of Newcastle and displayed at stations owned by the North British and North Eastern Railway Company.

Robert was also involved in setting up the scouting movement in Berwick.

The following are extracts from the local newspapers about Robert Clements and his death

Spittal Officer Killed Noted Local Man

We deeply regret to record the death in battle, in France, of 2nd Lieut. Robt. Cooper Clements, N.F., Spittal, one of the best known citizens in Berwick-upon-Tweed, and a noted local man.

“TO AN UNKNOWN HERO”

The following letters have been received by Mrs. Clements, Wilson Terrace, Spittal.

9th Sept. 1918.

Dear Mrs. Clements, -

I am deeply sorry to have to inform you that it has now been ascertained that your husband was killed. His body was found a few days ago with a notice above it, “To an Unknown Hero.”

The three men who were with him lay close by. He had been shot through the head and can have suffered no pain. The whole Battalion joins me in the deepest sympathy for you.

Yours very sincerely, J MacCarthy O’Leary. Lt-Col., Commanding 8th Batt., Royal Irish Regt.

Dear Mrs. Clements, - I am very sorry to have to tell you that the body of your husband, 2nd Lt. Clements, was found on the 6th Sept by one of the officers belonging to our Regiment just outside the village of Vieux Berguin.

As you know he was first reported missing. He has been buried in the civilian graveyard just outside the village.

I am afraid that I cannot give you any details of his death as nobody living actually saw it.

Death must have been instantaneous as he was found with a bullet shot through the head.

I might mention that the ground where we thought he must be was being searched when a small grave was found on the battle line with the words “An Unknown Hero’s Grave”.

I am sorry to have to relate all this, but I am sure you would rather be told.

If there is anything else you would like to know please write to me and I will do my best, as poor Clements was in my Company and naturally we all feel his loss greatly - I remain Yours very sincerely,

J. Belloffat, Capt, C Coy R.I. Reg.

Dear Mrs. Clements, - It is with sincere regret that your husband, who was reported missing, was killed in the execution of his Duty. I personally discovered his body on the 6th inst., and he was shot through the head, his death must have been instantaneous.

He was buried where he fell and a small cross erected bearing the inscription "An Unknown Hero." Thinking it might be Mr. Clements I dug the grave up and identified him by his gas helmet and his badges and buttons. His effects are being forwarded to you under separate cover. Although he had only been with the Battalion for a short time his great courage and disregard for fear made him beloved by both Officers and men, and on the night of his death he was accompanied by 3 volunteers, all of whom shared his fate, and were discovered by me. I arranged a burial service, and he has been properly laid to rest in Vieux Bergein Cemetery. If there are any further particulars you would like to know, I shall be happy to supply them. All the Officers join me in expressing their deepest sympathy to you in your sad bereavement. - Yours sincerely, David Rist, Lt. 8th R.I. Regt.

The Comrade of his Boys

Mr. T.W. G. Borthwick, Headmaster of Spittal Council School, has forwarded us the following particulars regarding Mr. Clements;- The news of the death of Mr Robert Clements, 2nd Lieut., NF, was received with regret and sorrow all over the district. In Spittal especially, where he lived and was so well know, respected and loved, the sad event was the only subject of conversation, evoking universal sympathy for Mrs Clements and her little daughter in their great bereavement. A little more than a month ago Mrs Clements was informed that her husband had been transferred to an Irish Regiment, and later the news came on Aug 8, the first day of the Great Advance that he was missing. He had gone out on a scouting expedition accompanied by 3 of his men, and none returned. As our troops were advancing, the general opinion was that the whole party had been made prisoners. On Friday night Mrs. Clements received letters from the Colonel and 2 Officers who state that when the Regiment arrived at the village of Vieux Berguin the bodies of the 3 men who accompanied Mr Clements were found lying beside a shallow grave in a secluded corner of the village. Over the grave a inscription "To an Unknown Hero". The Officers opened the grave and found the body of Mr. Clements. Death, they say, must have been instantaneous, as the head was badly shattered by a bullet; but the badges and other tokens showed without doubt that Mr Clements had been buried here by the Germans. The body was reverently re-interred in the Little Cemetery of Veieux Berguin.

His brother Officers speak of him as a brave and fearless soldier, and this is proved by the fact that Mr Clements had penetrated into the German Lines much further than anyone expected.

The death of Mr Clements is a very sad loss. Good-hearted, generous cheerful, full of humour and at the same time gentle and sympathetic, it is no wonder everybody liked him. To the many hundreds of boys who have had the privilege of being his pupils he was more than a teacher. They worshipped the very ground he walked on; waited to escort him home from school at night, and hung around his house door to walk down to school in the morning. They clung to him like a steel magnet. Mr Clements was a man of great natural ability, and his initiative and individuality were great assets. The whole community in Spittal mourns his loss; many were moved to tears when they heard of his death.

Mr Clements was the oldest of 3 Assistants who have served in this school. The two younger men, Mr Roy Hunter and Mr John McTate, both university graduates and fine men have been killed. They were not so well known as Mr Clements, but their memory is held in loving respect by all associated with them. I had hoped Mr Clements might have been spared to us, but now all 3 are lying out there on the Field of Honour in France - 3 brilliant young men whose memories will be cherished by their colleagues and hundreds of the older scholars of Spittal Council School.

The posters (£3.75 each) and postcards (25 pence each) can be bought at the Tourist Information Centre in Berwick –

Linda Bankier

A HOLIDAY AT
BERWICK
UPON TWEED



R.C. Crants

RESTORES YOUTHFUL VIGOUR.

MIGRATION FROM GLENDALE TO NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

In 1836 the Stanley Land Company chartered a vessel to take migrants from the North Northumberland and Borders area, sailing from Sunderland to St. John, N.B. They were offering intending passengers houses and land in the Parish of Stanley, York County, New Brunswick and the whole operation proved very successful.

As a result it was decided to repeat the venture in 1837. They chartered the 'Cornelius' which had been built in Sunderland but this time it was to sail directly from Berwick and reach St. John via the Pentland Firth. The following advertisement appeared in the Berwick Advertiser dated 13th May 1837:-

"Emigration to New Brunswick. The fine new ship Cornelius, Captain John Woodworth, 450 tons burthen, will be at Berwick on the 20th May to take passengers to St. John, New Brunswick and will sail on or before the 25th. Immediate application is necessary, there being only a few berths disengaged."

A further article appeared on the 3rd June 1837:-

"Early on Tuesday morning the Brig Cornelius left this Port for New Brunswick, having on board 170 emigrants, the male part of whom have been engaged to work at the St. Lawrence Canal." This last statement was not correct, as the emigrants were from farming communities in the Wooler and Glendale areas and were required to open up and work new land in the Parish of Stanley.

According to the passenger list, there were 22 families, 5 single persons and 1 brother & sister, in all some 148 persons. The surnames of all those travelling were:- Bell, Brown, Carmichael, Cesford, Cockburn, Cowe, Craigs, Embleton, Gregg, Grieve, Hay, Herbert, Hume, Kay, Messer, Montgomery, Mowet, Nesbit, Piercy, Robson, Scott, Taite, Thompson, Thomson, Wightman and Wilson. If anyone wants to follow up any of these names, Linda Bankier has the complete list.

In a pamphlet published in 1842 and written by the Rev. Thomas Gray, the minister at the Scottish Church in Wooler, he describes, in relation to emigration from the area, that the poor "had recourse to an expedient, in raising a little money, frequently, but improperly, adopted, in similar circumstances, by the humbler classes, on both sides of the Tweed." This manner of raising money was to raffle their more valued possessions amongst the remaining members of the community!

They completed the crossing on or about the 1st July and all on board were in good health, also there was one birth on board, another addition to the Cesford family. On arrival in Canada they found that during their voyage the King of England had died and there was a young Queen Victoria on the throne! They were then transported up the St. John River to Fredericton, the provincial capital, by a small steam ship, the 'Waterwitch'.

Everything had gone well up to this point but when they reached Fredericton they found that a stop had been put on the land company's work and there was no housing or land awaiting them in Stanley Parish. Because of their plight, the provincial government came to their aid and they were accommodated in a public building (a new hospital that had not been commissioned) until their affairs could be sorted out. Fortunately the provincial government was still in session and they were allocated one hundred acres of land for each settler, on a tract of land lying on a road which was about to be opened up, some 25 miles from Fredericton and which was called Harvey Settlement. This land was named after Sir John Harvey, the then governor of the province. A surveyor was employed to lay off the block in 100 acre lots, the number of each lot being written on a ticket and put into a hat. Twenty four persons drew numbers and thus secured their land by lot. The government engaged a man to go out with them to give them instructions in the art of tree felling and he continued with them until one acre of each lot was cut down and ready to put in crops and a log cabin was built.

By the beginning of April 1838, sixteen families had been settled on their plots of land and the others followed shortly after. The first summer was spent in building the road to and through their settlement, the government paying each man £2 for every chain (22 yards) built. This money helped them buy their provisions until they could grow their own but as the road was not sufficiently built to permit teams and wagons, all their goods had to be carried on their backs from Fredericton. Those residing in the more remote parts of the settlement had about 30 miles to walk. All seed for farming had to be carried in this way, each man able to take up to 60lbs and sometimes they would get so hungry that they cooked some of the grain on the way home!

The first elders of this settlement were John Thompson, aged 35 yrs. a teacher, Thomas Piercy, aged 48 yrs. a labourer, Matthew Piercy, aged 22 yrs. also a labourer, and Thomas Herbert, aged 37yrs. a miller. John Thompson set up a school for the settlers children and was the first schoolmaster and this school also served as a church with the elders regularly taking Sunday services. They continued in this manner for sixteen years and then a Kirk was built and a Presbyterian minister was appointed.

In spite of all their hardships and difficulties in making their homes in a new and strange land, the settlement soon became a successful community and other friends and relatives were persuaded to join them. In 1850 a number of families arrived and took up a thousand acre block of land which they called Tweedside. Harvey and Tweedside became one continuous settlement and was peopled by emigrants from the Borders and Glendale areas and to this day the name of Tweedside lives on in New Brunswick.

Eric Herbert.

FRIENDS SUMMER OUTING

Over 30 members and guests of the 'Friends' went on the summer outing to the Alnwick Garden. Mr Ian August who is the project manager for the Duchess of Northumberland's brain-child welcomed everyone enthusiastically.

As the interest of the Friends lies with the historical details he slanted his guided tour to that aspect. He explained that today's garden stands on the site of a much older garden and pleasure grounds probably started about 1750. The hopes that one design was by Nesfield in the 1850s have been proved wrong.

On entering the garden you stand in the area of the 18th century greenhouses where exotic fruits were grown for the Duke's London home, Syon House. Plans are afoot to make this plot into a pavilion which will encompass the use of the original stonework.

Mr August took the friends to see the gloriously scented rose garden. It is magnificent now, but, in two or three year's time when the climbing roses, honeysuckles and clematis mature, it will be absolutely wonderful. The Friends admired a lifelike sculpture of a fox atop an intricate pedestal of fruits and fauna. This sculpture was once in a courtyard at Syon House but for some time had lain in storage. Now it seems the ideal spot has been found and the fox faces those who come into his domain with the assurance of age.

From the Rose Garden the path winds uphill, past the Water Tower, which will be adapted as an education area, and finally comes out at the Ornamental Garden. From the complex ironwork of the gates to the 18th century walls of Flemish brick the mixture of old and new is apparent. The strict lines of the paths and clipped or pleached trees are offset by the rich variety in height, colour and texture of excellently tended plants. It was amazing to discover that this jewel box of colour had only been in existence for one year. This walled garden was completely stripped and begun again so that from this ancient plant and seed nursery has sprung what is nigh on a mature garden.

Coming reluctantly away from the beds of seven feet high delphiniums in myriad shades of blue the Friends then moved to the Cascade area. Again Mr August explained how the shape of the cascade had been dictated by the history of the garden. Circular ponds now lie where once elements of the formal garden grew. The banks curving around the cascade have had to be preserved as they were a listed feature. The group stopped at the bottom of the cascade path to enjoy the display of playing waters. Several small children escaped from parents to run into the heavy spray of the spasmodic fountains. The modern day technology of this giant 'water feature' is awe-inspiring. Yet again the Friends were reminded that this is an example of the history of tomorrow.

It was astounding to realise that the tour had taken two hours. There was so much to admire of the present but the sense of history was fascinating.

At the end of the visit over a cup of tea, Mr August was thanked profusely. He then presented the Friends with copies of notes and maps on the history of the garden from 1750-1950. It was a wonderful summer outing.

BERWICK ADVERTISER SNIPPETS

APRIL 5TH 1834

TOLLS TO BE LET. Berwick & North Durham Turnpikes

Notice is hereby given, that the TOLLS to arise and be collected at the undermentioned Toll Gates, will be LET by Auction, to the best bidders, for the term of one year, from the 12th day of May next, at DAVIDSON'S, the Hen & Chickens Inn, Berwick upon Tweed, on Tuesday the 15th of April instant at 12 o'clock noon, in the manner directed by an Act passed in the 3rd year of King George the 4th, for regulating Turnpike Roads, viz :

Tweedmouth Low Gate at present let for				£590 p.a.
Tweedmouth High Gate	"	"	"	£565 p.a.
Twizel Gate	"	"	"	£571 p.a.
Castlegate Gate	"	"	"	£541 p.a.
East Ord Gate	"	"	"	£420 p.a.
Haggerston Gate	"	"	"	£335 p.a.
Duddo Gate	"	"	"	£183 p.a.
Ancroft Gate	"	"	"	£112 p.a.
Union Bridge	"	"	"	£371 p.a.
Shoreswood, Sandybank & Grindon Gates	"	"	"	£222 p.a.
Longridge & Thornton Gates	"	"	"	£200 p.a.

And they will be put up at such sums as the Trustees shall think fit. The Takers are entitled to take Tolls for Stage Coaches each time of passing and repassing. The best Bidder must immediately give satisfactory security equal to 1/6 of the Rent agreed on for payment of the said rent, at such times as the Trustees shall direct; and no person will be allowed to bid unless he produce a consent to enter into the required bond, signed by his intended sureties.

W.M. WILLOBY. Clerk

APRIL 26TH 1834 TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION

At BUCKTON, near Belford, Northumberland, on Friday the 9th of May 1834 by ANTHONY GREGSON, Auctioneer. ALL the extensive STOCK upon the said Farm, consisting of 147 Ewes and Lambs; 135 Ewe and Wedder Hogs; 2 Tups; 4 Cows lately calved; 4 Milk Calves; 12 one year old ditto; 16 2 year old Steers and Queys; part fit for the butcher; 18 Work Horses; 1 Mare in Foal; 1 3 year old Work Colt; 2 2 year old Fillies; 1 2 years old Riding Filly; 2 1 year old Foals; 3 Brood Sows and several Pigs; and all the Implements of Husbandry

The above stock is well worthy the attention of intending purchasers, being all very forward and in excellent condition. 9 months credit will be given on approved securities, or 9d in the Pound discount for ready money.

The sale will commence at 10'oclock a.m. DINNER FIVE SHILLINGS.

Buckton 14TH April 1834.

Muriel Fraser

FROM THE TREASURER

Due to several requests from members it has been decided to introduce a standing order facility for subscriptions, commencing on the 1st January 2003.

A form is enclosed with this newsletter. This is entirely voluntary and is up to the individual member if they participate or not. If you wish to participate complete the form and deliver it to your bank before the 1st January 2003.

The first box on the form relates to details of your bank. The starting date should be entered as 01/01/03.

Do not forget to sign the form.

The second box relates to details of the Friends bank account. All you have to do is enter the amount of your subscriptions in figures and words. (Current subscription rates are shown at the bottom of the page)

The third box relates to details of your account, all the required information can be obtained from your cheque book.

You can cancel a standing order anytime by contacting your bank.

If you do participate in this scheme please ignore any renewal notice that you may receive.

If you have any problems contact me on 01289 387366

Keith Wills
Treasurer

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

It has been another busy and interesting Summer for the Friends. The Wooler Churchyard Survey tested Linda's stamina as she jogged from one end of Wooler to the other trying to keep us all in order! Copying the inscriptions at the new churchyard didn't prove too difficult but checking the work done on the original graveyard around the church was quite a challenge. It being more like a jungle expedition!!

The Summer Outing to Alnwick was excellent giving us an insight into the garden's past, present and future. Let's hope that the enthusiasm for the Alnwick Garden shown by Mr August is mirrored by our own enthusiasm for the Union of the Crowns 400 project. I am sure that there will be something in the proposed events and activities that will be of interest to each and every one of you.

Please remember any **interesting stories, items, events, letters** or **queries** for the newsletter will be most appreciated. You may give them to Linda or send them by E-mail to gallagher@ukonline.co.uk or by post c/o. Records Office, Wallace Green, Berwick upon Tweed.

Yvonne Gallagher
Hon. Editor.