



Friends of Berwick & District Museum and Archives Newsletter



NUMBER 46 March 2005

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 18th March 2005

Friends AGM followed by a lecture by Shona Alexander, Director of Regeneration and Development – “ Berwick’s Renaissance – the Role of Heritage and Regeneration “ . Guildhall, Berwick starting at 7pm.

OTHER SOCIETIES' LECTURES

AYTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Ayton Bowling Clubhouse.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Tues. 29th March AGM + The Bondagers: Ian McDougall.

Tues. 26th April Visit to Eyemouth Harbour.

BELFORD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Meeting Room, Belford Community Centre.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Wed. 23rd March Mediaeval Newcastle: Dr Constance Fraser

Wed. 27th April The Chillingham Cattle: Mr R. Widows.

Wed. 25th May Border murders: Norrie McLeish.

Wed 22nd June Evening Visit to Chatton Moor.

Wed 27th July Evening visit to Bamburgh Dig.

BERWICK HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: The Parish Centre, Berwick.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Wed. 16th March Women in the Roman North : Lindsay
Allason Jones.

Wed. 20th April AGM + David Ist & Berwick upon Tweed:
Prof. Geoffrey Barrow.

BORDER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Venue: Parish Centre, Berwick upon Tweed.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Mon. 7th March Olmpics Ancient and Modern : Jeremy Patterson
(to be held in the Maltings)

Mon. 4th April AGM plus The Lammemuir : John Dent

Mon. 9 th May	Pigs and Ploughs : Dr Peter Rowley -Conwyn
Mon. 6 th June	Topic to be agreed : Richard Lomas
Visitors fee £2.00	

COLDSTREAM & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Eildon Centre, Coldstream.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Thurs.3 rd March	AGM followed by Undertaking and Joinery: Tom Tokely
Thurs. 7 th April	England's Rough Wooing: Mrs Isabelle Gordon
Thurs. 5 th May	Berwick Castle: Francis Cowe
Thurs. 4 th June	Field Trip to Hirsell House with Lord David Home.
Thurs. 4 th July	Field Trip to Ayton House with the Curator.
Visitors Fee £1	

DUNSE HISTORY SOCIETY

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

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Wed. 30th March	Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay: Major General Charles C A Ramsay
Wed.27th April	Stuart McFarlane - "Border Festivals"

EMBLETON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Parish Church Room, Embleton.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Wed. 16 th March	Rock Art in Northumberland :Dr Aron Mazel.
Wed. 20 th April	The Life and Posthumous Wanderings of St. Cuthbert : Steve Bangs.
Wed. 18 th May	Outing to Howick Estates: Talk and Walkabout with Robert Jamieson, Head Gardener.

GLENDALE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Cheviot Centre, Padgepool Place, Wooler.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Wed. 9 th March	Old Wooler :Mr R. Miket and Mr D. Fairnington.
Wed. 14 th April	A.G.M. & Members Night.
Wed. 11 th May	Northern Heraldry: Mr RA Humphrey

LOWICK HERITAGE GROUP

Venue: Lowick Village Hall

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Tues 12 th April	Battle of Flodden: Arthur Wiltshire
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NORHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue; Norham Village Hall.

Time; 7.30 p.m.

Monday 14th March	The Stone Age Settlement of Northumberland: Clive Waddington
Monday 11th April	Local Finds in the Area: Ronnie Hek or The Story of Norham Station: Catherine Short.

NORTH SUNDERLAND & SEAHOUSES LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: St Paul's Parish Hall.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Wed. 23 rd March	The Gas Industry: Mr D.P. Dalby.
Wed. 27 th April	Old Embleton : Mr G. Skipper.
Wed. 25 th May	Members Evening.
Wed 25 th June	Members Outing.

NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY (North Northumberland Group)

Black Bull, Lowick.

Time: 10.00 a.m.

Sat. 19th March

The Delavals: Margaret Hickling.

Sat. 16th April

Dr Gillie of Norham : Canon S. Huxley

Sat. 21st May

The Ancroft Nuns: Miss Olive Trewick.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Please find enclosed with this newsletter the Friends AGM papers. The AGM will take place on Friday 18th March in the Guildhall starting at 7pm, so please come along. The organisation is looking for new Committee members. The Committee only meets about 4 times a year and so it is not too onerous. If you would be interested in joining and would like to know more, please phone Barbara Herdman. Nominations will also be taken on the night for the Committee.

Linda Bankier

ARCHIVE NEWS

Newsletter time seems to have come round very quickly this time and almost two months of this year have gone already.

Over the past couple of months, the Record Office has been kept busy with its usual work and other things. Lots of people have still continued to come in and use the office on its public days. The Family History series has definitely made a difference. It is also encouraging to see new people coming forward as volunteers either to do work in the Office or type up transcripts at home. The Record Office couldn't provide such a good service to visitors without all this background work and support.

The Bondington Project has just about come to a close now. We have produced our academic report and the CD Rom for schools and are about to complete our little booklet which should be available shortly. The CD Rom will be sent out to all the schools in the Borough and each Library in the county will have a copy as well. If anyone would like to see the CD, just come in to the Record Office on one of its open days and you can view it on one of our computers.

Since the beginning of January, I have been teaching a number of courses for Northumberland College. I have taught a Family History for Beginners course here in the Record Office and also a 5 week Family History and the Internet course in Wooler. There has been such an interest in the course in Wooler, that we are running it again for those who couldn't get on the first time round!

As well as courses, I have also given a couple of talks – in January I talked to Ayton Local History Society about the Borough Archives and in mid February I talked to Embleton Local History Society about projects the Record Office has been involved with over the past two years. Then at the end of the month, I talked to the Borders Family History Society about Cross Border links and records kept in Berwick. I also have a number of talks lined up for March.

That apart, I am kept busy just trying to keep the Record Office going. There are always enquiries to answer and research to do for people as well as many other tasks – there is never a dull moment !

Linda Bankier

THE OPENING OF SPITTAL COUNCIL SCHOOL

Whilst looking through my file on various snippets of history I have on the Borough, I found the following article on the opening of Spittal Council School in 1908 which readers may find of interest. Hopefully it will reach its centenary in 2008 :

Spittal Council School

OPENING CEREMONY YESTERDAY

The new Council School at Spittal was formally opened yesterday afternoon by the Mayor (Councillor F. Edminson) as Chairman of the Local Education Authority. Previous to the ceremony His Worship, who is a native of Spittal and a Manager of the School, entertained to lunch at the Roxburgh Hotel the School Managers, and a few other friends.

THE NEW SCHOOL DESCRIBED

The Council School at Spittal is the third which has been built in the Borough since the passing of the new Education Act, the others being the Bell Tower Infant School the arrangements for which were carried through by the old School Board and the Tweedmouth Council School. These three scholastic buildings are all very much of the same type, the large central hall being a conspicuous feature of each. The new School at Spittal was necessitated by the old Spittal Council School – formerly the British School - having been condemned as inefficient and insanitary. Considerable improvements were also required at Spittal National School and the Rev. Evan Rutter, the Correspondent, and the School Managers, realised that considerable waste must be caused by two separate elementary schools in the small township, and accordingly they agreed to their school being amalgamated with the old British School in a new building. It was reckoned that about 340 places would be required but it was thought best that the new School should be so planned that three additional class-rooms giving 140 more places, could be added if occasion demanded. The foresight of this decision is approved by the fact that the number of pupils on the roll of Spittal New School is already in excess of the number of places.

The New School occupies a prominent position on the Main Street, near the Parish Church. It consists of a large central hall, 7 classrooms, teacher's rooms, and the usual cloakrooms, bookstores, etc. Extensive playgrounds, with covered sheds, are in the rear of the building.

The main elevations are built with rock-faced freestone blocks from Ord Quarry and the roofs are covered with Welsh slates. The contractors for the work were :- Mason – Messrs Hy. Elliott and Sons; joiner and carpenter – Messrs J. Cockburn and Son; slater, tiler, and plasterer – Messrs J. Turner and Sons; plumber and gas fitter – Mr W. Cairns; painter – Mr R. Taylor, Berwick; heating and ventilation - Messrs Mackenzie and Moncur, Edinburgh; architects – Messrs Gray and Boyd. The whole of the classrooms have a south or west aspect, which gives the maximum amount of sunshine. The School is heated throughout with hot water on the low-pressure system, with ventilating radiators. The cost exceeds £4000. The classrooms were tastefully adorned with flowers and pot plants for the occasion.

The staff comprises :- Mr T. W. G. Borthwick, Head Master; Miss Jeffrey, Miss Paxton, Miss Gregg, Mrs Laidlaw, Certificated Assistants; Miss Hutchinson, Miss Johnston and Miss Davy, Uncertificated Assistants. Mrs Laidlaw has charge of the Infants Department.

THE OPENING CEREMONY.

The opening ceremony was favoured with fine weather, and there was a large attendance. Among those present were:- The Mayor, the Mayoress, and Miss Josephine Edminson ; the Sheriff and Miss Leslie; Sir Francis Blake, Bart., of Tillmouth Park, Chairman of Northumberland Education Committee; Councillor Maclegan, Chairman of Berwick Education Committee and Mrs Maclagan; Mr M. Pole, H.M. Inspector of Schools; Aldd., Mrs and Miss Burn; the following Managers of the School – Mr Robt. Burton (Chairman), the Rev. Mr Alexander, Councillor Greenwood, Mr W. J. Dixon, and Mr John Hills; the Ex- Mayor (Mr G.F. Steven); the Deputy Mayor (Ald. Marshall); Mrs Alexander, the Rev. Father Smythe; Councillors Boston, Forsyth, Logan, Nicholson, and Campbell; the Town Clerk (Mr R. Weddell); the Borough Treasurer (Mr T. C. Smith); Lieut. And Quarter-master Reilly, R. A., and Sergt. Major Reidy, R.A.; Mr T. Purves, Mr J. L. Edminson, Mr Jos. Watson, Mr T. Barker (School Attendance Officer), Mr G. P. Boyd (Architect); Mr Willits (Headmaster Berwick Undenominational School) and Mrs Willits; Mr W. A. Tennant (Headmaster Tweedmouth Council School) and Mrs Tennant; Mr G.N. Broadbent (Headmaster St. Mary's C. E. School, Berwick), and Miss N. Broadbent; Mr Jno. Peacock (Headmaster Tweedmouth C. E. School); Mr R. B. Rutherford and Miss Rutherford ; Miss Borthwick, etc.

At the main entrance to the School, Mr Boyd presented the Mayor with a silver key, which His Worship said it gave him great pleasure to accept as a very valuable memento of the day's proceedings.

The key, which bore the following inscription, was supplied by Messrs Ross and Ross, Berwick.

“Spittal Council School

Opened Wednesday, 29 May, 1908,

By

His Worship the Mayor
(Councillor Edminson).

Presented by Gray and Boyd,
Architects.”

In the Central Hall, Councillors Maclagan took the chair.

The Town Clerk intimated apologies for absence from Captain Norman, R.N. , Vice – Chairman of the Education Committee; Councillor Prenderleith, Mr T. Carter, Mr David Askew, the Rev. Even Rutter, and Mr Edward Willboy.

After the singing of the hymn “Now thank we all our God,” and a prayer by the Rev. A. Alexander.

The Mayor explained the circumstances which has led up to the building of the School. He congratulated the children on the excellent facility now afforded to them for receiving training which would fit them for any walk in life. The day was not so very long past since the loss of a limb was sufficient warranty for a man to open a School in some disused room, but now very, different qualifications were required. Schools were veritable palaces to what they were in the old days, and the internal arrangements were as good as it was possible for hygienic science to make them. What was wanted on the part of the scholars was concentration, and he could hardly urge its importance too strongly upon them. By application to their work, they would ensure success, satisfy their parents and their teachers, and in after years be respected and honoured by their fellow-citizens. The teachers would find in the new schools an arena for the display of their abilities. For the raw material they had as healthy a class of children – (applause) - as could be found anywhere; their environment was admirably adapted for maintaining and strengthening their health. After urging the importance of the old proverb “A healthy mind in a healthy body,” his Worship paid a tribute to their Headmaster Mr Borthwick, who was a man of many parts, a resourceful man, and one eminently fitted for the high position he occupied. Mr Borthwick, he was confident, would do all in his power to raise Spittal Council School to the highest standard in the Borough. They noted with regret the absence of their old friend, the late Mr Hornby, who had served his generation faithfully and well in the position which he had held for thirty years as Headmaster of Spittal British, afterwards Spittal Council School. He hoped the parents, who were rate-payers and owners of the School, would do all in their power to strengthen the hands of Mr Borthwick and his staff so that the School might achieve excellence not only in scholastic attainments but also in cleanliness, civility and righteousness. (Applause) He had great pleasure in declaring the new School duly opened.

The Chairman in introducing Sir Francis Blake, said that that gentleman was going to show them how much better they did things in the County, and what a mistake Berwick had made in not joining the County for Education.

Sir Francis Blake said he must at once disclaim such an idea. Rivalry was an excellent thing in institutions, and he believed that Berwick was running a very efficient and excellent Education Committee of its own, and as representing a neighbouring and friendly Education Authority, he wished to congratulate them upon their work. The loss of two schools though replaced by one new and well equipped building, could not altogether be contemplated without regret, for after all, it was not the school premises that mattered, but the spirit of the school – (Applause.) - which they could not be certain would be transferred to the new School. He did not care how ugly a School was externally so long as it had the true education spirit within, the spirit for instance that in Spittal had been inculcated men like the late Mr Hornby and Mr Borthwick. From the difficulty of moving some of his friends in the neighbourhood of Berwick – (laughter.) He gathered that things must have been very bad with the buildings of the old schools before they determined to build a new one. A good deal was said about the enormous cost of education in this country – 20½ millions last year, of which £11,173,000 came from taxes, from the Imperial Exchequer, and £9,230,000 from rates. Let them look at the matter rather in the light of the cost for each child's education. And remember that for every boy's or girl's education £1 17s 7d was paid every year in England and Wales alone, from the Imperial grants and £1 10s 0d from Local rates; which merit that for a total sum of £27 1s 4d a boy or girl received eight years thoroughly good useful and practical education. His remarks to the teachers he could best embody in a quotation, He believed it was from Dr Chalmers – and he asked them to bear it in mind: - “The end of instruction is not to impress our own mind on the young, but to stir theirs; not to make them see with our eyes, but to look enquiringly and steadily with their own;

not to give a definite amount of information, but to inspire a fervent love of truth; not to burden the memory, but to quicken and strengthen the power of thought, and to awaken conscience so that it discerns and approves what is everlastingly right and good.” Before the children he put the example of the Right Hon. Thos. Burt, of whom Lord Grey, addressing a school in Canada, recently said:- “The finest gentleman I ever knew was a working miner in England, one whose gentleness, absolute fairness, instinctive horror of anything not in strictest fairness, gave him a character which enabled him to rise to the position of a Privy Councillor.” (Applause.) The success of the school must depend also in great measure on the co-operating of the parents as without that education could not reach the highest standard of usefulness. (Applause.)

Mr Pole, H.M.I.S., who was the next speaker, expressed his pleasure in being present, and congratulated the Education Authority on their new School. A very considerable waste in expenditure and in labour would, he felt sure, be saved by the amalgamation. He had known Mr Borthwick for some time, and especially admired his freshness of mind and energy. Those were just the qualities which were most wanted among teachers now a-days, for there was far too much tendency for teachers to be all alike in their methods. More individuality was needed. It was not a question of code; it was a question rather of developing the children’s mental powers by setting them face to face with their own difficulties. (Applause.)

On the motion of Mr R. Boston, the thanks of the meeting were heartily accorded to the Mayor, the Chairman, and the speakers. Mr Boston especially expressed their pride in the Mayor as a Spittal man. (Applause.)

Sir Francis Blake and the Chairman also suitably replied.

The proceedings were enlivened by the following items contributed by the pupils:-

Three Part Song – “Night, Lovely Night.”

Dumb Bell Exhibition.

Song – “Tom Bowling.”

Indian Club Exhibition – 8 Girls.

Three Part Song – “O, Hush Thee, My Babie.”

The pupils who took part were – Boys - Thos. Robertson, Jno. Ford, Jos. Edminson, Barty Lough (1), Sam Longbone, Jno. Wood, Jas. Baxter, Jno. Johnstone, Hy. Morton, Jas. Thomson, Jas. Robertson, F. Swinney, Jas. Scott, Jno. Richardson, Thos. Burn, Jas. Turnbull, Jas. Forsyth, Monty Alexander, John Strassheim, John Johnston, Alex Martin, Wm. Moffat, Richd. Wood, Geo. Thomson, Robt. Pearson, Chas. Noble, Barty Lough (2). Girls – Queenie Davy, Eliz. Matthews, Violet Melrose, Mary Ann Richardson, Bella Thomson, Katie Johnston, Jessie Teasdale, and Jeannie Robston (these were the 8 girls who gave the Indian Club Drill); Evelyn Borthwick, Lizzie Cowe, Bessie Patterson, Flo Woods, Jessie Robson, Maggie Purves, Thomasina Dumble, Lizzie Lough, Lizzie J. Lough, Alice Johnston, Margaret Glass, Emily Brigham, Barbara Richardson, Sarah Rutter, Marjory Hall, Rachel Rutter, Barbara Thomson, Maggie Swinney, Janet Emery, Olive Glaston, Emily Patterson, Lizzie Makins, Marjory Crombie, Bella Smith, Sarah Sinclair.

The Drill was very well done, and the singing was of a particularly high order for school children. Mr Borthwick, who conducted the class, has evidently given very great care and a considerable amount of work to their training; and the result of his efforts was pleasing in the extreme. Miss Borthwick played the accompaniments.

In the evening there was a large attendance of parents and friends to hear this part of the programme repeated. Special features of the evening meeting were;- The presentation by the Mayor of County Council Bursary Examination Certificates to Thos. Rae, Chas. Nobel, Phyllis

Cowe, and Sarah Crisp. And a presentation also by the Mayor, for prowess in another direction, namely in the football field. As will be remembered Spittal School won the Borough Schools Football Competition. The following boys compose the winning team, to whom the medals were presented by the Mayor last night – J. Strassheim (goal): A. Patterson and T. Robinson (backs); J. Hope, F. Swinney, and J. Scott (half-backs); G. Thompson and J. Forsyth, R. Forsyth, W. Moffat and J. Baxter (forwards).

Mr R. Boston, Chairman of Managers, presided, and opened the meeting, and addresses were also delivered by the Rev. A. Alexander, Mr W. J. Dixon, and Mr J. Hill, Managers of the Schools. The parents had an opportunity of inspection the schools, and to give additional interest to their visit, the children were seated in their proper classrooms.

The Mayoress and Mrs Robt. Boston presented the children with buns and oranges before leaving.

The thanks of the meeting were accorded to the Mayoress on the motion of the Sheriff, and the Mayor suitably acknowledged the compliment.

Linda Bankier

ASPECTS OF BERWICK'S CULTURAL HISTORY

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Chillingham & the Art of Hunting

With a ban on hunting with dogs now passed into law in England, I thought it might be interesting to look back at a period when hunting was unquestionably part of the aristocratic way of life. In September 1861 Augustus Hare visited Chillingham Castle to find "Lord Tankerville...romping with his children. He is quite charming, so merry and courteous." At Chillingham, Hare noted "deer of every kind are to be seen upon the hills, and Lady Tankerville hunts them furiously, tiring out twelve horses in succession, placed to await her at different points in the park." Hare was charmed by Lady Tankerville (as he was of so many grand ladies) saying she was "very pretty, and looks quite a girl" and that her "spirits are so exuberant she scarcely knows how to get rid of them, dotes on her 'Hossinun', plays with her children, gallops on her horses, hunts her deer, manages her household, with equal vivacity. She is the most amusing person possible, is never ill, laughs fineladyism to scorn, and scrambles about the park, regardless of colds and crinolines, in all states of the weather". They all went on splendid picnics, cooking omelettes over a heather and fern fire and on another occasion a few years later the Tankerville children "caught fresh trout from the burn nearby" and Hare toasted bread. The stag hounds had been introduced to Chillingham in 1836, partly inspired by the famous Border ballad of 'Chevy Chase'. The first meet on Alnwick Moor in October was before a glittering company that numbered the greatest Lords and Ladies in the region. A stag was released from a cart and chased for miles before it escaped. Everyone declared it a very fine day. A frequent visitor at the time was the painter Edwin Landseer. He seems to have first stayed at the Castle in 1824 during a trip to see Sir Walter Scott and soon after produced an extraordinarily violent picture of *The Hunting of Chevy Chase*, based on the Border ballad. Another quarry on the estate was the Chillingham wild cattle, which noble visitors were occasionally allowed to hunt. Thomas Allom's print of one such bull hunt is in the Museum's collection. Scott had referred to the Chillingham wild cattle in his novel *The Bride of*

Lammermoor (1818) and Landseer included a dead bull in a frontispiece he designed for the collected edition of the novelist's works published in 1830. By then Landseer was becoming a good friend of Lord Ossulton and Ossulton's father the 5th Earl of Tankerville commissioned the artist to paint his son's portrait in a suitable pose as master of the wild cattle. To allow Landseer to study the animal in detail an ambush was laid to shoot a bull. This went wrong and a game-keeper was tossed in the air by the bull. The keeper was only saved from being gored to death by Ossulton's deerhound Bran who held off the bull until it could be shot. Landseer made sketches of the incident and the resulting portrait, *Scene in Chillingham Park*, more than seven foot square, was widely admired when exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1836, not least by the heir to the throne, Princess Victoria. When the Princess acceded the following year Ossulton, and Landseer, became familiar figures at court, Ossulton even sang for the Queen. Thirty years later, in 1867 it was Landseer who was commissioned to undertake two enormous canvases depicting Lady Tankerville's quarry, the park deer and three of the wild cattle. Before the young Lord contemplating a dead bull, now the deer and cattle were shown very much alive. The pictures were intended to be hung on either side of the door in the great dining hall of the castle. There are now both in Newcastle's Laing Art Gallery, the deer standing proudly snuffing in the air in the manner of Landseer's famous *Monarch of the Glen*, while the huge Chillingham bull dominating the smaller cow and calf, is in the words of the *Athenaeum* reviewer "magnificent painted in all respects of handling, and in the largest, finest manner of the artist...a triumph of painting". *The Wild Cattle* picture was first exhibited with a quotation from Walter Scott:-

"Mightiest of all the beasts of chase
That roam in woody Caledon
Crashing the forest in his race,
The mountain bull comes thundering on"

The Chillingham cattle were an attraction which most visitors to the area tried to include in their itinerary. Walter White visited, the Berwickshire Naturalists visited often and in October



1870 Prince and Princess Christian of Augustenburg viewed the herd during their stay at Alnwick Castle. A bull or two were sometimes shot to provide beef for a special banquet, as occurred on New Year's Eve 1871 to celebrate the coming of age of the Earl's son the new Lord Ossulston. Spending was lavish, as it seems the gardens were landscaped and a pseudo-Norman service wing was built at this time. The guests for the party entered the Castle along paths illuminated with hundreds of lights on stakes, with more lamps burning on the ancient walls. The press reported the magnificent decorations of the great hall, prominent among were Landseer's paintings. The great barons of beef from the herd served, and

consumed, the toasts and speeches followed. These assumed immediately a deeply serious note, as it was just a fortnight since the Prince of Wales had recovered from typhoid and a wave of relief had swept the country. Lord Tankerville assured them only the hand of God alone could have spared the Prince, who was, to those that knew him personally, "a generous-hearted and high-spirited Englishman". Had the Prince died, Tankerville suggested, the country would have been on the brink of a revolutionary bloodletting as they had just seen in France during the Paris Commune. Security could only be maintained by keeping the ruling elite in power undisturbed by the "turbulent and disaffected", this may have been a reference to the secret ballot only finally passed into law the following July. What the guests thought of all this serious stuff we cannot tell, but Mr Rea, one of the tenants, proposed the health of the Earl of Tankerville in "a very flattering speech" and a portrait was unveiled, not of the birthday boy but the Earl himself. It had been commissioned from Francis Grant one of the leading portraitists of the day. This picture is now on loan to Berwick Museum. After more toasts, including 'the foxhounds of the county', the party went outside to watch fireworks. All week long there were dinners and balls given in Ossulston's honour throughout the Tankerville lands from the Wark on Tweed to Craster far to the south. In the following autumn that specimen of jollity, the Prince of Wales himself arrived at Chillingham and Lady Waterford came over from Ford for lunch. She told Augustus Hare that she found the Prince and Princess "extremely hearty and merry and pleasant; but I *hated* an amusement provided – pigeon-shooting; it was to my mind disgusting". Not only pigeons died on that trip as the Prince expressed a wish to stalk and shoot a wild bull.

A triumphal image of the Prince was published, but the contemporary press were dismissive of the Prince's exploit, one local writing as follows:-

"He's a warrior, ye knaa, and the papors are full
Iv a terrible encoonter he had wiv a bull!

He slotered the bull, but his critics will say

That the Prince was cunceaed in a bundle iv hay
And that it was ne feat at a'lie hid
And slowter the bull in the way that he did;
But some folks are selfish an'wima hear tell
Iv any great feats unless dune be thorsel".

Chris Green

ELEANOR WEATHERLY'S DIARY FOR THE YEAR 1804

Recently I had the pleasure of reading the transcript of a diary, which was written in the year 1804 by a Miss Eleanor Weatherly who lived at Outchester farm near Belford. The original diary was discovered elsewhere in the country, when it was promptly bought and returned to Northumberland . It gives a fascinating glimpse into life at that time for those of more comfortable means, and the challenge to find out more about the Weatherly family proved irresistible.

Eleanor was born in Berwick in 1784, the second child of John and Mary Weatherly. Her elder brother James was born in 1782, her sister Susan in 1785 and the appropriately named Nicholas on 14th December 1786. Sadly this last child was to cost Mary Weatherly her life, she died ten days later at the age of 26, and was buried in Foulden churchyard, close to her father in law who had been a tenant farmer at Foulden Hill.

John Weatherly moved his young family a few miles further south to Easington Town farm, and later also leased Outchester farm from the Royal Greenwich Hospital. It is clear that the family were well established at Outchester by 1804, and had become close friends of the Dinning family who lived nearby at Newlands just south of Belford.

The numerous siblings of Eleanor's father were all baptised at Coldingham, thus the Weatherly family were well scattered throughout Berwickshire and East Lothian, which made for constant trips back and forth across the border. Eleanor was only twenty years old at the time of writing the diary, and is perhaps rather more interested in social life than weightier matters – she is however, refreshingly frank.

Should curiosity induce any person to read this book, I hope they will excuse repetitions

Jan 2 My father and brothers dined at Bradford. Mrs Hall and apprentice were here making our lace muslin gowns for the Belford dance. Mended my white shoes.

Jan 3 Was up at 7 o'clock. Wrote a letter to Miss Dinning before breakfast. Made a pair of shoe bows. Went to Newlands for tea, from thence to the Belford Ball.

Jan 4 At Newlands – my father and William Mole came in the afternoon and we had a dance after tea... Miss B.D sported some new steps which I vainly tried to imitate, but did not succeed. William Mole would have accompanied me home to Outchester had not my father wished him goodnight at the road that takes off to Chesterhill. I was so vexed that I went to bed without my supper.

Jan 7 Susan and I had a quarrel today because she would not give me a piece of clout to mend my morning gown. We exchanged a few blows. I came off victorious. Had a long letter from Miss Dinning enclosing fashions for the year 1804. A hard frost

Jan 8 There has been a very great fall of snow last night – the roads are all blocked up- I cannot get to Warrenford – had a fire on in our room. Nichol had his usual search for his Catechism, but could not find it, nor never can

Jan 10 This day has been replete with disappointments and my father says we are not to go to dine at West Hall on Thursday. I lost my dinner with the hare pudding being too salt. Lost 1/6d at cards and last of all, lost my temper

Jan 16 We had roast pig to dinner. James came home from the drill very ill, he has got a severe cold, have got such trouble in my eyes I can scarcely see to write

Jan 17 was draped rather comical today – had on a ball gown – green checked handkerchief – purple stockings – black velvet round my head with a large green shade. Had to go to bed after tea – I was so ill

Jan 25 There has been a great fall of rain last night – the waters are all up – not one in this neighbourhood is fordable. Susan and I had a dispute about making the tea, neither of us would do it, so my father did it himself. Lost 1/6d at cards

Feb 2 We were all very much alarmed this morning by a report that the French are landed in Scotland – the Glendale Cavalry are gone to Alnwick to join the Percy Tenantry

Feb 3 The report was false – the beacons were lighted by seeing some whins on fire – James came home from Alnwick this afternoon very much mystified that he had not seen some of the French dogs. I won seventeen pence at cards, we amused ourselves tonight with blacking each others faces

Feb 7 Went to Newlands to tea from there to Mr Calvert's second subscription ball. The ball was honoured with the presence of Sir Carnaby Haggerston and Lady Haggerston, Sir Thomas Stanley and Miss Haggerston. The room was crowded as there were near a hundred people in it – broke up at 4 o'clock. Weather frosty yet

Feb 15 Made an Italian cheese. Been in very low spirits today

Feb 18 Susan and I were at wars this morning – I beat her until she wept. I have had a very busy day cleaning the closets. Could not get a game at cards tonight as I was short of cash. Uncommon fine day

Feb 26 I forgot to mention that James Trotter of the Chesters called yesterday – indeed this morning. I did not know what I was about for I sugared all the cups twice, but I always commit a multiplicity of mistakes after seeing John Younghusband

Feb 29 Had a pig. Merchant here this morning. He and I could not agree about the price so did no business. Spun a slip of yarn before 4 o'clock. My father, cousin Wm. from Dunbar, James and Susan went off to Newham to dinner. Susan lost all her money, came home in a sore temper. I have been busy reeling my yarn tonight

Mar 3 Had Mr Walton to tea. We drank tea by daylight and had a hand at cards before the candle was brought in. I lost ninepence. Some showers and snow, frosty

Mar 5 I have been six times dressed in my ballgown which I am to have on tomorrow....

Mar 6 Susan and I dressed to go to the ball at Belford, I was the last that came into the room. The Ball broke up at 5 o'clock – we went home with the Newlands party

Mar 13 Susan and my father are gone to Scotland. Nichol and I went to Mr Forster's of Glororum to tea

Mar 19 The kitchen maid and I spun half a spignol of yarn today. My father and Uncle David came home from Scotland. Fine and frosty but rather cold

Mar 30 This being Good Friday I went to Belford church – from there to Wandylaw with Miss Dinning to dinner. Saw a great number of officers in Belford. James was sowing wheat today late

Mar 31 Got my buff gown home from Edinburgh today, all over silver trimming with velvet sleeves. Stormy day – hail

Apr 3 Rode up to Newlands. At Berwick had my hair dressed by Mr Cousins for the Belford ball. Was led into the ball by Mr Dinning.....returned to Newlands at half past 3 o'clock. This is Calverts last subscription ball

Apr 4 Newlands. Rose at 10 o'clock quite refreshed. Had four slices of tongue, beef, ham and egg, three cups of tea to my breakfast.....

Apr 7 ...have been busy today packing up a box for Susan, sent her my buff dress.

Apr 10 My cousin Weatherly, Mr Rankin of Berwick and Miss Dinnings drank tea here. We went as far as the turnpike with the Miss D's – no hat or shawl, had to walk home on dirty roads. Had on my best Morocco shoes. Lost 6d at cards

Apr 16.....After tea went in the carriage with Mr & Mrs Watson and Miss Bawtrie to the silver miners' concert in Belford. The house was crowded

May 5my cousin John Weatherly of Butter-dean Mains came here to spend a few days. I have been uncommonly restless today. I first began to red up [tidy] my drawers, next to spin, then read, about an hour after that I began to make a watch chain, but I did not finish a job today. At last I found some amusement in the world, a book wrote by Fitz-Adam

May15 Mrs Weatherly and her family came from Dunbar. Susan returned along with them. I was at Belford Fair, but did not stop ten minutes

May25 This is a general bank holiday, I was at Belford church...Miss Watson came up for us to go to a wedding that was at Spindleston Mill. We all went down and drank tea with the bride. Met with a great deal of civility

Jun 2 The Miss Dinnings came down after tea to get some money from my father to buy us hats at Newcastle. Had a deal to do before he would part with the ready...

Jun 5 I have been very busy today, flounced two petticoats, hemmed three yards of muslin darned my thin sprigged muslin gown, made tea, and last of all mended James' small clothes

Jun 9been packing my trunk ready to go off on Monday
Eleanor spent the rest of the month with relatives in Berwickshire, returning in the Union coach to Berwick in early July. Whilst in Berwick she went to Lamberton races, an Assembly, and two plays 'The Tragedy of Douglas' and 'She Stoops to Conquer'. Nichol came to escort her home to Outchester.

Jul 27 James went into Berwick today. He is to be in for a week with the rest of the troop on permanent duty

Aug 3 Had a letter from James asking Susan and I to come in to the Assembly tonight. We went in a chaise with Margaret Younghusband and dined at Miss Young-husband's in the Wool Market. Slept at the Kings Arms, went to bed at 6 o'clock.

Aug 16 Was up at 6 o'clock this morning to bake muffins. Was at the bathing.

Sept15 I have hemmed half a dozen neck-cloths today. The weather is warmer just now than what it has been this summer

Sept24 Susan and I went to Newlands to dinner, went in the gig with Barbara to Belford races and returned to Newlands for tea

Oct 7 Susan and I took the Sacrament for the first time today

Nov 8 My cousin Tom of Hopprigg, James & I were out hunting with the greyhounds

Nov 21 Susan and I went up to Newlands after dinner and began to dress for the Ball at Chillingham Castle. The chaise came for us at 6 o'clock – we went into the room at 9 o'clock, was introduced to Lady Haggerston, there were between two and three hundred people at the dance. Kept it up until 6 o'clock in the morning.

Dec23 Susan and I went to Chester Hill this morning to see Miss Watson who has got herself very much burnt. Susan went home to dinner but I stopped until eleven o'clock at night... pleasant morning, rain afterwards

Begin this journal for to improve my writing. Now been scribbling at it for a year and still room for improvement. Will try what another year will do. I think this has been the happiest year I have seen yet.

John Weatherly died in 1807 at the age of 53 and was buried alongside his wife Mary at Foulden. The Newcastle Courant described him as 'a friendly, honest and worthy man'.

James inherited the Easington farm, and the management of Outchester until the lease with the Royal Greenwich Hospital expired in 1811. Catherine Nicholson Wilson of Alnwick became his wife in November 1813, they had four sons and a daughter. After leaving Outchester James farmed at Budle Hill near Bamburgh, until his death in 1837.

Nicholas was serving his apprenticeship to become a Land Surveyor when his father died, he was to be 'kept in as full and affluent a manner as now' until the expiry of the Outchester lease in 1811, when he inherited £3500. He lived at Belford Villa for many years, having married Isabella Cockburn

in Dunbar in July 1821. They had one son. In later life he moved to Newcastle with his son and died there in 1854.

Susan '*having already had from me £400 or thereabouts*' was left £1000 and a further £1000, for any lawful children after her death. It would seem that Susan was not to be entirely trusted with money! In 1808 at Bamburgh church she married George Turnbull a surgeon of Dunbar, and had six children who survived infancy. Two of her sons became doctors and were partners in Dunbar. She died in 1864 in her eightieth year.

Eleanor was left £2400 due in increments either on marriage or when she attained 25. After the farm at Outchester was given up and James had married, it seems likely that she lived with Nicholas in Belford, until her own marriage in 1821. The Berwick Advertiser-

'On March 20th at Dunbar, Matthew Turnbull, surgeon, to Miss Eleanor Weatherly eldest daughter of the late John Weatherly Esq. of Easington. A large party of their friends were waiting at the Kings Arms Berwick to welcome their arrival, where the day was spent in the most convivial manner. The happy pair in the evening set off for Coldstream' The marriage actually took place in Coldstream where Matthew practiced, although he was a native of East Lothian and possibly a cousin of George. In October 1825 Eleanor gave birth to a son Matthew James, but did not live to see him reach maturity, she died at Coldstream in February 1841 at the age of 56. Matthew James also became a doctor and took over the Practice in Coldstream, he later served as a J.P for Berwickshire. Although married three times he died childless, so sadly there are no direct descendants of Eleanor Weatherly.

In Coldstream graveyard at Lennel there is a headstone in memory of Matthew, Eleanor, and their son. The three wives are remembered on an obelisk nearby.

Joan Wright

SNIPPETS FROM THE BERWICK ADVERTISER

June 19th 1847

The GOLDEN FLAX CRAVAT COLLAR needs no Additional Cravat; in one article is combined both Collar and Cravat. Snowy whiteness united with the greatest durability, is secured by the use exclusively of the GOLDEN FLAX LINEN (Prize Fabric of 1844, 1845, 1846 of Irish Grown Flax).

It is capable of the easiest adjustment, without the slightest pressure; no movement of the neck disarranges it. This Construction, combining with the natural freshness of the Linen Fabric, even when exposed to the scorching heat of the sun, renders this article delightfully cool for the Summer wear.

To be beneficial to the staple growth and manufacture of Ireland, it must be general – let this excuse reference to the economy.

The price is 3s. each cravat-collar – the wear is from two to three years – the washing is that of a Cravat alone.

None are Genuine, except stamped "JOHN PATTERSON, LONDON, REGISTERED" N.B. To be had also, printed in a variety of neat genteel styles, at the same price as the White. May be obtained of all Drapers, Hosiers and Outfitters. Agent THOMAS HUBBICK. BERWICK.

December 4th 1847

MR.W.ROWLANDSON B.A. – LATE OF CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

Begs to announce to the Inhabitants of Berwick upon Tweed and its Vicinity that it is his intention to open a BOARDING and DAY SCHOOL, for the Instruction of Youth, at Berwick, on Monday the Thirty-first day of January Eighteen hundred and forty eight.

The Course of Education Mr.Rowlandson is desirous of imparting, will comprise instruction in English Literature, in the Greek and Latin Classics, in Mathematics, in Arithmetic and Writing, in History and Geography; and no pains will be spared to ensure the Proficiency of Pupils in the various Branches of Study.

TERMS

(To be paid quarterly) :-

Day Boys	Eight Guineas. PER ANNUM.
Borders above twelve years of age	Fifty Guineas. “ “
Boarders under twelve years of age	Forty Guineas. “ “
French and German – One Guinea per annum extra.	

Apply to MR.THOMPSON, BOOKSELLER, BRIDGE STREET, BERWICK.

June 19th 1847

A BEAUTIFUL SATIN HAT FOR SEVEN SHILLINGS.

THE SUBSCRIBER has just received another supply of FRENCH SATIN HATS from Seven Shillings upwards, to which he most respectfully invites Inspection.

WALTER CARTER. Ayton June 17th 1847.

Muriel Fraser

LETTER FROM EDITOR

Please don't forget 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