



Friends of Berwick & District Museum and Archives Newsletter



NUMBER 78—MAY 2013

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 18th May, 10am - 4.00pm

Sunday 19th May, 11.00am - 4.00pm

Bygone Borderlands - Local and Family
History weekend in the Guildhall, Berwick.
Free entry

Monday 27th May 2013,
2.00pm – 5.00pm

Friends Special Viewing of Tom Fleming's
exhibition.

Tuesday 25th June 2013

Friends Summer Outing to the
Northumberland Archives at Woodhorn to
see behind the scenes. Meet at Woodhorn
at 4pm. Please confirm attendance in
advance.

MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS

1 st April – 30 th September	Tom Fleming : A life in Letters (Calligraphy Exhibition) at Berwick Museum.
1 st April – 27 th May	The Lindisfarne Gospels – opportunity to see a facsimile of the original – at Berwick Museum.
End of May – 30 th August	BBC North East Photography at Berwick Museum

OTHER SOCIETIES' LECTURES

AYTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Ayton Community Hall

Time:7.30 p.m.

Lectures resume in September

BELFORD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Meeting Room, Belford Community Centre.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Wednesday 29 th May	Berwick's Food Heritage: Derek Sharman
Wednesday 26 th June	Visit to Berwick Masonic Lodge
Wednesday 31 st July	Belford Walk: Ian Main

No Lectures in August

BERWICK CIVIC SOCIETY

Venue: Berwick Parish Centre.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Wednesday 8th May

The Main Guard Exhibition preview party
6.00pm-8.00pm

Wednesday 12th June

A talk and presentation on the Castle
Vale/Coronation Park project: Christopher
Davis, Landscape Architect

Wednesday 10th July

Vision For Berwick, a Question Time with a
panel of invited guests.

No lectures in August

BERWICK HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Parish Centre, Berwick.

Time:7.30 p.m.

Lectures Resume in October

BORDER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Venue: Parish Centre, Berwick

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Monday 13th May

Traprian Law updated: Dr Frazer Hunter

Monday 3rd June

TBA: Kristian Pedersen

No lectures in July and August

Monday 2nd September

The Circus comes to Town: Roman Wild
Beast Show: Jeremy Paterson

BORDERS FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Corn Exchange, Melrose

Time: 2.30pm

Sunday, 26 May 2013

AGM followed by Someone to Watch
Over Me : Kirk and Community :
Margaret Fox

No lectures in June, July and August

CHIRNSIDE HISTORY GROUP

Venue: Community Centre

Time: 7.30pm

Monday 20th May

Georgian Fashion & Etiquette: Karen & Val

No lectures June, July and August

COLDSTREAM & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Eildon Centre, Coldstream.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Lectures resume in October

DUNSE HISTORY SOCIETY

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

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Lectures resume in September

GLENDALE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Cheviot Centre, Padgepool Place, Wooler.

Time: 7.30pm

Lectures resume in September

LOWICK HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Lowick Village Hall

Time: 7.30pm

Lectures resume in September

NORHAM HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Norham Village Hall

Time : 7.30 pm

Monday 10th June

Visit to Maelmin

Monday 8th July

Net Fishing: Jim Gibson

No lectures in August

Monday 19th September

The Bishop Wars: Ollie Hofer

NORTH SUNDERLAND & SEAHOUSES LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: St Paul's Church Hall, North Sunderland

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Lectures Resume in October

Refreshments will be available. For further information, contact Linda at the Record Office – (01289 301865 or e-mail lbankier@woodhorn.org.uk) Please come along and support us.

TALKS AT BYGONE BORDERLANDS

SATURDAY 18 MAY 2013	TITLE	SPEAKER
10. 15	An Introduction to the Battle of Flodden	Chris Burgess
11.00	Rebuilding Berwick's Town Hall – recent discoveries	Jim Herbert
12.00	A Glimpse into the Archives at Paxton House	Martha Andrews and Chris Pawson
1.00	Wilson's Tales of the Borders : Berwick's Forgotten Heritage. The Tales; The Man and their historic context	Andrew Ayre
2.00	James IV – who was he?	Matthew Rooke
3.00	Family History Resources in the Berwick Record Office and the Heritage Hub at Hawick	Linda Bankier and Paul Brough
SUNDAY 19 MAY 2013		
11.15	An Introduction to the Battle of Flodden	Chris Burgess
12.00	Women and the Battle of Flodden	Clive Hallam Baker
1.00	Berwick's Medieval Walls	Jim Herbert
2.00	Mauchlineware and Flodden	Jane Bowen
3.00	The Alnwick Muster Roll, February 1514	Chris Hunwick, Archivist to the Duke of Northumberland

TOURS

Noon (Saturday) : Archaeological Tour of the Gaol area of the Town Hall, led by Jim Herbert

2pm (Sunday) : Archaeological Tour of the Gaol area of the Town Hall, led by Jim Herbert.

ARCHIVE NEWS

This newsletter seems to have come round so quickly. I'm not sure where the time is going to at the moment.

Needless to say the Record Office has been really busy with various projects. Most of my time at the moment is taken up with Flodden. The Transcription Project volunteers have finished their 6 week training course on "Reading Old Handwriting" and are now working on some 16th century Berwick documents to test their skills. The classes were really enjoyable but challenging for everyone – volunteers and teacher. Everyone has made huge progress and surprised themselves in what they can read with perseverance. We're meeting again shortly to start the next bit of the Project – working on the Flodden documents which will hopefully throw up some new information on who was involved as well as some interesting facts and figures. This bit is really exciting because many of the documents we will transcribe have not really been looked at before as sources.

As well as the Volunteer Transcription Project, I have also been working very hard on Bygone Borderlands which takes place on 18 and 19 May. Various local history and heritage groups from both sides of the borders are taking part and there is a good range of talks, some Flodden related and others on the local history of the area. Please do come along and support us – see separate article.

I have also managed to be involved in some other Projects as well as Flodden. Niamh's class at Longridge Towers were studying the Victorians last term and so I went to school to do some work with them. Using a Tourist map, we did a virtual walk around Berwick locating Victorian buildings and looking at old photographs of them. They also learnt about Lady Jerningham who lived at Longridge Towers in the Victorian period. This was followed by a walk around the main school comparing old photographs of some of the rooms with how they look now. It was amazing how interested the children were in picking out features which are still visible today.

Education wise, I have also done some work with University students as well. In mid April the North East Learning Arc group ran an afternoon workshop for Northumbria University students about to embark on their dissertations. We ran sessions so that they could find out more about archives and how they could help them. I tested them on their skills in reading 19th century handwriting which they seemed to enjoy. In

April, I also got involved in a new venture with the National Archives. Through our contacts with Dr Paul Carter on the “Living the Poor Life Project”, I was asked to help them deliver a week long course to Post Graduate students on using National and Local Archives in the Modern Period (1780s onwards). It was a challenge trying to prepare workshops with staff I had never actually met and intergrating our input on various topics but it worked out really well. I certainly learnt an awful lot from it although it was exhausting being involved in 4 workshops. I was able to see original documents kept down there about Berwick including the petition requesting the setting up of a Local Board of Health in 1850 which was fascinating and the clemency appeal of the Moens and others against the death penalty in the early 1800s. They were sentenced to death for counterfeiting coins. There is never a dull moment in the Archives and no two days are ever the same !

Linda Bankier

FIRST WORLD WAR MILITARY TRIBUNALS

2014 will be the centenary of the start of the First World War and I'm sure there will be many events and projects to commemorate this occasion which probably impinged on our ancestors in one way or another. As preparation for next year and beyond, Terry Ford is going through the Berwick Advertiser and picking out references to deaths and injuries to Service personnel. They were often reported in minute detail. Whilst looking through the newspapers, he came across references to Military Tribunals of those who asked to be exempt from military service after the introduction of compulsory conscription in 1916. We often think that these would only relate to conscientious objectors, however, the newspaper accounts reveal that on the whole people were seeking exemptions because of their trade or family circumstances. I have transcribed below some of the cases which were reported in the Berwick Advertiser on 21 April 1916 and were heard at the Berwick Military Tribunal :

Berwick Advertiser, 21 April 1916

BERWICK MILITARY TRIBUNAL

A meeting of the Borough Military Tribunal was held at the Council Chamber at Berwick on Friday. Alderman Maclagan presided and there were also present – Messers Prentice, Morrison, Short and Herriot; also attending, Mr W. Hogarth, Military Representative and Mr Jas. Gibson, Clerk.....

IRONMONGERY FIRM'S APPEAL

The firm of Messers Caverhill and Company, ironmongers, appealed for Robert Dodds, jobbing blacksmith, Low Greens, on the ground that he was indispensable, that it was impossible to find a substitute, and that there was no one to replace him in the country jobs.

Mr Barr supported the appeal, pointing out that Dodds was most useful in the discharge of particular work in connection with ranges and grates. He was married, and had three dependents.

In answer to Mr Hogarth, Mr Barr said that the firm had an older blacksmith named Nicholson, but he was no longer able to go to the country. He had also two apprentices.

The Tribunal agreed to grant exemption till 31st July.

Mr Barr in expressing thanks said that Dodds had no idea of being a shirker and would be quite willing to serve if called upon.

Mr Hogarth – that is a very safe observation to make after the decision. (Laughter)

CARTING CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Thomas Mark, carting contractor, appealed for his son of the same name, on the ground that he was indispensable, that no substitute could be obtained, and that they had contracts in connection with the Berwick and Tweedmouth Gas Company which involved government work.

Mr Hogarth said that the case had been altered by the fact that the son wore a Government badge, and he would ask that the badge and the appellant's card be given to him to make enquiries and that the case be adjourned till the next meeting of the Tribunal.

This was agreed to.

FISH CURER'S CLAIM

Mr P.P. Boston, fishcurer, Spittal claimed on behalf of Wm John Havery, who was said to be indispensable as a cooper and smoker of herring. All the other employees had offered their services. When the war broke out he had 17 men; now he had only six left. Herring could be easily damaged by steam or fire, and it required a very capable man to do this kind of work.

Mr Hogarth pointed out that it would have been impossible for Mr Boston to retain his usual staff owing to the want of business.

Mr Boston admitted that he got his son exempted and when the latter had to go to Yarmouth, this man took his place. If this man was taken, it would mean closing the business down altogether. The man was married and had one of a family.

The Tribunal agreed exemption so long as Havery remained in his present employment.

AN OPINIONATIVE APPELLANT

Robert F. Rennie, Spittal, drapers' traveller, appealed on the ground that it was in the national interests he should remain in his present employment, that it would inflict serious hardship if he was asked to join, and that he had already four brothers serving. He asked if it was fair that a little brother should be asked to leave his family.

Mr Herriot – You have only right to state your opinion; you have no right to ask questions.

It appeared appellant was a married man, and had three of a family.

Exemption was granted until 31st July.

A MODEST CLAIM

Mr H.R. Smail, Berwick Advertiser office, claimed on behalf of one of his employees, Kerr Middlemiss (26) linotype operator. Mr Smail said he was the only operator left with mechanical skill and that his office had already been depleted by men being taken for the army. Eight of his employees had joined, and it would be impossible to go on without this man. In consequence of the depletion of his staff a double feeding machine was presently standing idle, and this itself was a serious loss.

Mr Herriot – You should state you have two boys serving, one of whom has been killed. It shows you are doing your best for the good of your country. You are far too modest.

Mr Smail replied that he did not desire to go into that; he only wished to appeal on behalf of his office staff.

It was explained that Middlemiss was a married man with one child.

Mr Hogarth enquired what had become of another employee he had recently through his hands.

Mr Smail – He has joined the KOSB's
Exemption was granted till 31st July.

Linda Bankier

MUSEUM NEWS

We opened for the new season on Good Friday, and we had record numbers of visitors over the Easter weekend; the weather was lovely and there were lots of tourists in town taking advantage of the good weather and the free admission to the museum!

To tie in well with the 2013 visit to the north east of the Lindisfarne Gospels, our opening exhibitions of the new season feature calligraphy.

Tom Fleming – A Life in Letters shows the work of the Chairman and founding member in 1989 of the Northumbrian Scribes. Tom is Scottish by birth, but has lived in Northumberland for many years. In 1953 he came to Northumberland as Surveyor at Lynemouth Colliery - the largest undersea coal mine in Europe at that time. In 1960 he attended evening classes at Newcastle University and obtained his Certificate of Fine Art specialising in Calligraphy. Having now passed his 90th birthday, this retrospective exhibition is long overdue.

The Lindisfarne Gospels – alas, not the genuine ones, but Northumberland's very beautiful limited edition facsimile codex – are on display until the end of May. The codex is being shown together with paintings from the collection as well as the brilliant seed pictures of "Tetramorphs" made by Berwick Floral Art Club and the Lindisfarne Mat, made by the Woodhorn Matters.

We will be showing the *BBC NE Wildlife Photography Competition* exhibition from June, including all of the prizewinning photographs. We will display some of the natural history collection from the museum itself alongside the photographs.

We recently welcomed a new member of staff to the Woodhorn team. Jane Miller has taken up the post of Education Officer for the Flodden 500 project. Jane has an enviable CV, having worked previously for Tyne and Wear Museums and York Archaeological Trust.

We have just found out that the Woodhorn Trust has been awarded a large Renaissance grant to enable all of the Woodhorn museums to run a series of family friendly events over the course of the year. It is early days yet, and we have still to decide how to best spend this money, but we are aiming to provide some exciting activities for children on every day of the season. In the meantime we have set up a children's area in the downstairs area, with special small seats and tables for our young visitors to use for their colouring in sheets and animal trails.

We will be holding a special afternoon on May Bank Holiday Monday (27th May 2pm -5pm), when we will provide refreshments and a viewing of our new exhibitions. We would love to see you there!

Anne Moore - Museums Officer, North Northumberland.

FRIENDS SUMMER OUTING

Behind the Scenes at Woodhorn

As advertised in the last newsletter, the *Friends* are running a visit to the Northumberland Archives at Woodhorn on 25th June this year, when there will be a **Behind the Scenes** tour of the facilities led by the Senior Archivist, Sue Wood. This means that as well as seeing the modern Search Rooms, we will visit the storage and excellent reprographic facilities, not normally open to the public.

Those travelling from Berwick as part of a group, should gather at the Record Office at 2.50 pm. Those travelling individually should aim to be at Woodhorn for 4p.m. We will meet in the foyer of the Cutter building.

It is planned to end the visit with a meal at the nearby Brewers Fayre in the Queen Elizabeth County Park, for which participants should pay individually on the evening.

If you wish to come to Woodhorn, and have not already booked a place, please contact Linda (01289 301865; e-mail: lbankier@woodhorn.org.uk) making clear how you wish to travel and whether or not you wish to participate in the evening meal.

Jane Bowen
Secretary

A FORMIDABLE LADY, MISS ISABEL COWE

Over the last year several of the Belford 'Friends' have been busy helping set up a small museum in the village's former Reading Room. Among the items we have been fortunate enough to have donated, is a photographic glass plate showing suffragists outside the Blue Bell Inn. This must have been taken during the March from Edinburgh to London in October 1912, when the suffragists carried a *Votes for Women* petition to Parliament. Clearly visible among the group of women outside the hotel, is a suffragist holding a bicycle. Undoubtedly, this was Isabel Cowe, whom Val Glass mentioned as taking part in this walk in the June 2012 Newsletter (Number 74). Val quoted from the Berwick Journal:

Miss Cowe has done splendid work en route, for the bicycle has enabled her to reach many out of the way farm-places and hamlets for signatures, and then rejoin the party. Her long experience of wrecks and storms at St. Abbs, where she has been a tower of strength to storm-stayed mariners, has made her hardy and helpful, and even in the roughest weather of the long evening she never missed a chance of getting a signature. Wearing a sou'wester, and holding a hurricane lantern and pen and ink, she made a picturesque figure.

In trying to find out more about Miss Cowe, Linda suggested we contacted Fred Kennington, whose interest had also been awoken by Val's article. His research had established that Isabel Cowe, born 1868, was the youngest of eight children of Robert Cowe and Catherine Rae. Both parents were the children of fishermen from Eyemouth or Coldingham. In 1901, Isabel with her unmarried sister, Agnes, was living at *The Anchorage*, Coldingham, as a summer lodging house keeper. Isabel is listed as the Proprietrix in 1905, when the yearly value of the property is given as £19. Both sisters were still there in 1911 when Isabel was described as a Boarding

House Keeper in a house with nine rooms with windows. One boarder, a school teacher, is recorded.

The following year, as Val identified, Isabel had contributed to the rescue of passengers from the SS *Glanmire*, an iron steamship, which foundered off St. Abb's Head, while sailing from Amsterdam to Grangemouth on 25th July 1912. This resulted in her being awarded the RNLI's Gold Brooch for bravery.

Another of her concerns was the ineffectiveness of local government. Fred uncovered the story of how, at the beginning of 1914, she refused to pay her parish rates, and as a result the bailiffs were sent in to impound her goods and offer them for sale. According to a newspaper report:

The sheriff's officers found the house locked up and Miss Cowe waiting in the kitchen to resist forceable removal of the goods. She was armed with a hatchet and a patent fire extinguisher. Ultimately admittance was gained by a balcony window. After strenuous argument, the sale opened, but Miss Cowe refused to 'buy in' the goods which went to a local dealer. Miss Cowe firmly refused to allow them to be taken away, whereupon the sheriff's men broke open the back door with an axe and the proceeds were removed on the dealer's cart. (Coventry Evening Telegraph 26.1.1914). Another account adds that as they left, her parting words were Ye'll have another trot down here for my May taxes, though in fact it doesn't seem to have come to that.

Miss Cowe explained her reasons for her actions in a letter to the *Berwickshire News*:

Sir, - I am advised by outsiders to let the public know my reasons for refusing to pay my rates. In previous years we have had to walk to Coldingham, 1½ miles from here, on a given day in the forenoon, to pay our County amercements. I asked the Collector to come to St. Abbs as there are over 70 householders here, but he took no notice. I did not go last year, as I had said I would not. He sent Leslie and Leslie (debt collectors) for it. I paid the rates but refused to pay his expenses, which were 4s 2d. and told him to tell the Collector that I would ask the other householders to do as I had done. This year he has come to St. Abbs and I have paid my rates to him at the hall.

Our grievance with the Parish Council is that they will not take up our sanitary arrangements. They say this cannot be done until St. Abbs is formed into a Scavenging District, and that is the work of the County Council. We know of others willing to have the refuse, so we refuse to have extra taxation when it can be

done without..... I hear so many complaints that I am obliged to take up the present stand.

I have been told by members of other Parish Councils, when they complained about our roads, to write to the Parish Council. I did so and they refused to act. I got 4 tons of railway sleepers and had the roads put in order – the Creel road to Coldingham, footpath to the sands, and footpaths leading to the harbour, which cost over £26. £16 I have cleared by concerts, other £10 I have still to make up.

Perhaps all the fuss resulted in Isabel losing a taste for her home, as the following year saw her buying *St. Abbs Haven* at Coldingham Sands, formerly the home of another redoubtable woman, Jane Hay, who had recently died. Isabel remained there until her own death in 1931. Her ashes were scattered on *The Haven* lawn, and, in its grounds, a sun dial was erected to her memory by the many visitors who had come to know and respect her.

Jane Bowen and Fred Kennington

THE HIGH COST OF GETTING DRUNK!

The following report appeared in the *Newcastle Courant* of Saturday 5 August, 1843:

"COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND - MIDSUMMER ASSIZES, Crown Side

Friday August 3

JOSEPH ATKINSON pleaded guilty of unlawfully solemnizing a marriage at Berwick-upon-Tweed, between Wm, Brown and Catherine Cosser. The prisoner is the "priest" of Lamberton Toll Bar, which is about four miles north from Berwick, and he is in the habit of performing the ceremony of marriage there according to the Scotch fashion. On the arrival of the parties in this case the "priest" was absent, and as there were urgent reasons for haste, it being, in fact, "a runaway match," the parties proceeded to Berwick and there found the "priest" in a public house called the "Old Hen and Chickens," Bridge-street. They requested him to perform the ceremony without delay, but he refused to do so except at Lamberton to which place he invited the parties to return. There being reason, however, to suspect that pursuit

was being after the fugitives, it was not deemed prudent to return; they then treated the "priest" with liquor until he became intoxicated, and in that state he performed the ceremony at Berwick, and recorded it when he returned to Lamberton as having been done at the latter place. The case, it will thus be seen, did not in any way involve the question of the validity of the Scottish law, according to which the marriage ceremony is performed at Lamberton toll bar. The Learned Judge sentenced the prisoner *to be transported for seven years!*"

Joseph Atkinson, aged c.53, was transported on the convict ship MARION which departed from Deptford on 29 November 1843, arriving in Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania) 3 April 1844 (126 days). 301 male convicts departed and 295 arrived, the Master was Robert D. Guthrie and the Surgeon W. H. B. Jones. Atkinson was recorded as having a wife, Elizabeth, and a son, James, and was said to be able to read and write. The surgeon's report character during the voyage was 'very good and intelligent; 2nd schoolmaster'. His religion was Protestant, and he was recorded as a 'gent's servant'.

Janet Ward

THE NORFOLK WHALER OF BERWICK

The year is 1836 (not in text) and it's from Sykes and Fordyce "Local records or, *Historical register of remarkable events, which have occurred in Northumberland and Durham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Berwick-upon-Tweed from the earliest period of authentic record to the present time; with biographical notices of deceased persons of talent, eccentricity, and longevity.* New ed.

Published 1866 by [Sykes](#) in [Newcastle](#)

This book is now online. A real treasure house!

January 9- The Norfolk, whaler, of Berwick, arrived off that port this morning. The long-looked-for vessel anchored in the bay. The intelligence spread rapidly over the town, diffusing in its progress unalloyed gratification, and all classes were seen in groups travelling to the pier and ramparts to obtain confirmation of the report. The Norfolk left the ice on the 14th of December, and arrived at the Orkney Islands on

January 8th. The crew were free from disease, but generally, very weak. They had been on short allowance from the beginning of October.

Val Glass

BAMBURGH "GHOSTS"

Tales from the Eighteenth Century-

Ahead of their time-the offer of free Inoculation against Smallpox in Bamburgh

For the last two years, I have had the privilege of working as a volunteer at Woodhorn County Archive, on the Lord Crewe papers. These are a fabulous collection reflecting life in the 18C in Bamburgh, and in the Castle; I would like to share some of the stories I have found with you.

Dr Cockagne was a Surgeon at the Infirmary established at Bamburgh Castle, by the Lord Crewe Trustees, led and inspired by the most famous of them all, Dr John Sharp. Dr Cockagne lived initially in Wooler, but due to the difficulties of travelling to Bamburgh during severe winters, was provided with accommodation at "Bambro Fryers", from where he wrote in a beautiful copperplate hand on April 4 1786 to Dr Sharp-

"I have to acknowledge the Honour of receiving two letters which gave me great pleasure on more accounts than one they Reliev'd me from an Anxiety that I had offended you unknowingly, or that your silence might be occasioned by some Domestick Distress the [missing] of which I Pray may be at a Great Distance..

..The Child of John Carr's Died upon the Eleventh Day- I saw him every day-he had the true Confluent chryolalline Kind and I had no hope for him from the beginning- His youngest child is now ill of the Smallpox but likely to do well-of a very fine sort, and I expect to get some Good Matter to inoculate those who chuse to Accept of your kind offer I took the Liberty (which I hope will meet Your approbation) of having the offer of Inoculation Gratis to all the Poor of Bambro and the Neighbourhood made publick at the Church Door on Sunday last by the Clerk and I hope it will have a proper effect- The Country People have been much diseas'd this winter and Spring, We had 150 Patients at the Surgery the Saturday before last, which is the

greatest number ever got on one day- Joseph Thew's Child is inoculated George Hall's little boy has got over it very well indeed- Mr Watson's Child of Glowerorum is going to be inoculated and several peoples children at Glowerorum- I shall not neglect any Part of my Duty with regard to Attendance and willingly leave the consideration to the Trustees of whose kindness I have no reason to doubt-

Mrs Cockagne thank God continues a better state of Health than formerly and joins me in every good Wish for the Health and Happiness of Dr Sharp and family and am, Dear Sir, Your Respectful and obliged Humble Servant...."

With thanks to Woodhorn Archive-ref NRO452/C/3/2/15/77

Carol Griffiths

SNIPPETS FROM THE BERWICK ADVERTISER

Berwick Advertiser, 4th November 1870

SALE OF PROPERTY

On Tuesday afternoon, Mr Purves offered for sale by auction on the premises, the Hen and Chickens Hotel, Sandgate, which belong to the late Mr James Davidson. There was a large attendance. The biddings began at £500, and after a spirited competition the hotel was sold for £700, to Mr George Brown, undertaker, Tweedmouth, for Mr James Tinn, Newcastle. Mr Purves next offered to dispose of the Rising Sun Inn, Christonbank, with a dwelling house. The Inn is let on lease of ten years from May 1869. at a rent of £19. After a spirited competition, it was sold at £295 to Mr John Stenhouse, Earl Mill, for his brother, Mr William Stenhouse, Brecon.

Berwick Advertiser, 18th November 1870

DRAKE'S DIORAMA

This diorama has been exhibited in the Corn Exchange during the past week, and has received a considerable amount of patronage. The views represent scenes of

interest on the overland route to India, and sights witnessed while travelling in the east. Several nautical views are also shown, and the brilliant transformations of several scenes greatly enhance the entertainment. A historical and descriptive lecture is given by Mr Drake. Miss Rose Percy presides at the pianoforte and sings a selection of music in a very pleasing manner. The diorama is well worth visiting, and we would advise all those who have not seen it, to visit the diorama before it leaves town.

Berwick Advertiser, 18th November 1870

A POLICE HUNT

It will be seen from Police news that on Saturday morning, the Mayor remanded a prisoner named Patterson alias Watt till Thursday for further examination. Usually in such cases, the culprit is immediately conducted from the Court to an adjoining room, where after being encumbered with handcuffs he is marched in company of one of the police-officers to his place of confinement at the New Goal. On the present occasion from some reason or other the police seemed to have been less vigilant than usual, for Reynard though to all appearances hopelessly surrounded succeeded in making his escape without being observed. He had not got many yards, however, before the pursuit began, but the pursuer having forgot his hat, returned for it. By this time the prisoner made the best use of his legs, during which one or two others were loading their pockets with shackles and were otherwise actively engaged in making preparations to join the hunt. At length the staff were in full cry, but the prisoner succeeded in effecting his escape, and he has not since been heard of.

Carole Pringle