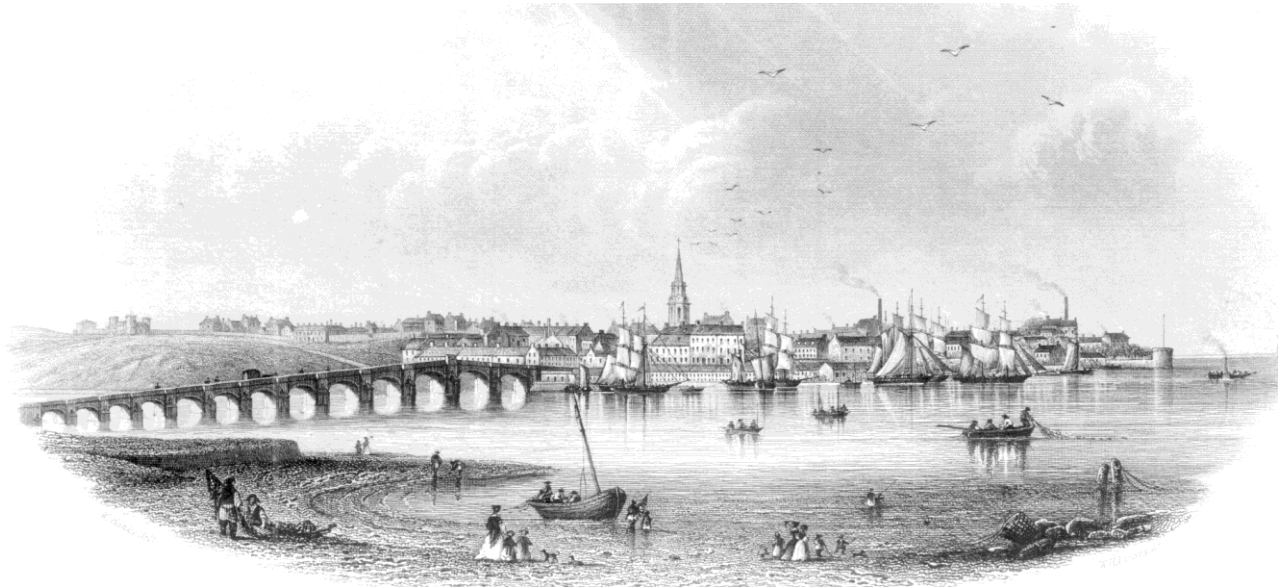


Friends of Berwick & District Museum and Archives Newsletter



NUMBER 90-DECEMBER 2016

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 20th December 2016

Berwick Record Office Coffee Morning to thank Friends, volunteers and supporters, 10.15 to 12.00 in the Parish Centre, Berwick

Friday 24th March 2017

Friends AGM in the Parish Centre, Berwick. 7pm start.

OTHER SOCIETIES' LECTURES

AYTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Ayton Community Hall

Time: 7.30 p.m.

No lectures in December

Tuesday 31 st January 2017	Kelt Fishcakes and Gilse: Net Fishing on the Tweed: Martha Andrews and Jim Gibson
Tuesday 28 th February	Shipwrecks off Scotland: When an interest gets out of hand: Ian Whittaker
Tuesday 28 th March	(AGM) Coldingham Priory in context: Dr Chris Bowles

BELFORD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Meeting Room, Belford Community Centre.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Wednesday 25 th January 2017	The McLarens of Belford: William McLaren
Wednesday 22 nd February	Your neighbourhood SAS – The Resistance in Northumberland 1940-45: Phil Rowett
Wednesday 29 March	The Rise of Northumbria 590-650: Michael Thomson

BERWICK CIVIC SOCIETY

Venue: Berwick Parish Centre.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Wednesday 11 th January 2017	A talk by Mr Geoff Paul, Director of Planning and Economy at Northumberland County Council.
Wednesday 8 th February	"A Vision for Berwick", question time session with a panel of invited guests.
Wednesday 8 th March	Richard, Duke of Gloucester Part 2: Dr Sandra Pendlington of the Richard III Society.

BERWICK HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Parish Centre, Berwick.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Wednesday 21 st December	Methodists in Berwick from Wesley to Where? : Alan Beith
Wednesday 18 th January 2017	Rediscovering Cuthbert – The man behind the saint: John Woodhurst
Wednesday 15 th February	Northumberland's Agricultural Revolution: Howard Culley
Wednesday 15 th March	Berwick 900 & The Our Families Project: Linda Bankier

BORDER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Venue: Parish Centre, Berwick

Time: 7.30 p.m.

No lectures in January

Monday 6 th February 2017	"Celts: Art and Identity.": Fraser Hunter
Monday 6 th March	Vindolanda, the excavation of a fort and settlement in transition: Andrew Birley

BORDERS FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Corn Exchange, Melrose

Time: 2.30pm

No lectures in December and January

Sunday 26 th February 2017	The Turnbulls of Abbey St. Bathans and a Descendant, John Turnbull Thomson, the Builder & Surveyor: David Lockie
Sunday 26 th March	Transcribing Scotlands Places: Andrew Nicoll

BOWSDEN HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Bowsden Village Hall

Time: 7.30pm

Monday 6th February 2017

From St. Aidens to the Reformation: The
Story of Lindisfarne Priory: Howard Culley

Monday 6th March

Generosity, Rumour and Suspicion: An
update on the Belgian Refugees: Story with
cast, compiled by Julie Gibbs

CHIRNSIDE HISTORY GROUP

Venue: Community Centre

Time: 7.30pm

Monday 19th December

History of Beekeeping: Willie Robson

Monday 16th January 2017

Haggerston Castle: Mrs Joy Lamb

Monday 20th February

Around Berwickshire: John Rogerson

Monday 20th March

Ayton Castle: Brian Parsons

COLDSTREAM & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Eildon Centre, Coldstream.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Thursday 5th January 2017

Wojeck the Bear: Eileen Orr

Thursday 2nd February

Treasure and a Coldstream Lad: Peter
Munroe

Thursday 2nd March

AGM & refreshments at 6.15pm followed
by a talk on Norham: Martha Andrews

DUNSE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Masonic Hall, 41 Newton Street, Duns

Time: 7.30 p.m.

No Lectures in December

Wednesday 25 th January 2017	Old Duns Worthies: Doug Redpath
Wednesday 22 nd February	The Border Reivers: Alasdair Huton
Wednesday 29 th March	Berwick Cockles: Cameron Robertson

GLENDALE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: Cheviot Centre, Padgepool Place, Wooler.

Time: 7.30pm

Wednesday 14 th December	Wooler weather: past, present and yet to come: Allan Colman.
Wednesday 11 th January 2017	Fisher Women: Katrina Porteous
Wednesday 25 th January	Quiz with Buffet (7pm for 7.30pm) at the Tankerville Arms, Wooler
Wednesday 8 th February	The fortifications of Berwick-upon-Tweed: Derek Sharman
Wednesday 8 th March	'Hens the want to crow': Suffragists & Suffragettes of the North-east 1866-1918: Liz O'Donnell

LOWICK HERITAGE GROUP

Venue: Lowick Village Hall

Time : 7.30pm

Monday 12 th December	The Story of Haggerston Castle: Eileen Langdale
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Monday 9 th January 2017	Where was Lowick? An archaeology update: Paul Langdale
Monday 13 th February	Lowick Churchyard Survey: Linda Bankier
Monday 13 th March	The many Nuisances of Lowick: Julie Gibbs and cast

NORTH SUNDERLAND & SEAHOUSES LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Venue: St Paul's Church Hall, North Sunderland **Time: 7.30 p.m.**

No lectures in December and January

Wednesday 22 nd February 2017	Northumberland Forestry in the two World Wars: Roger Jermy
Wednesday 22 nd March	The secret Army of North Northumberland: Phil Rowett

NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND BRANCH

Venue: Bell View Resource Centre, 33 West Street, Belford **Time: 10.00am**

No lectures in December

Saturday 14 th January 2017	In Sharp Relief – The story of a remarkable North- east family: Liz O'Donnell
Saturday 18 th February	Berwick Families: Linda Bankier
Saturday 18 th March	Members' Forum (no guest speaker)

TILL VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Venue: Crookham Village Hall

Time: 7.30pm

Wednesday 7 th December	Eyemouth Medieval Fort: Fiona Glover
Wednesday 4 th January 2017	Zoological material in Anglo Saxon Society: David Constantine
Wednesday 1 st February	Excavations at Binchester Roman Fort: Dr David Petts
Wednesday 1 st March	Update on Coldingham Priory: Chris Bowles

ARCHIVE NEWS

It's been awhile since we last produced a newsletter and so apologies for the delay. It's not through lack of desire to do so but a lack of time to gather everything together. I need more hours in the day to achieve everything! The last 5 months or so have been incredibly busy for the archives with various projects coming to fruition and others taking off.

Firstly, the Record Office has now moved its public service from its temporary home to its more permanent home. We are now operating from the former library building in Walkergate where we are on the top floor along with the Tourist Information and the Library. Our space is at the back. We have kept the same opening hours and arrangements for consulting original records – they need to be ordered in advance. If anyone is researching their family history, they don't need to make an appointment. So far, everything has gone smoothly although we still need to sort out some equipment for our space We're getting there ! Our postal address is now : Berwick Record Office, Walkergate Building, Walkergate, Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1DB, Tel : (01289) 301865.

Although Berwick 900 officially finished last year, the project has still continued through the Our Families Project which has just now come to a close. Since our last newsletter, we have been working away running public workshops and completing some of the legacies for the project. This has included a book(see below) and two web resources. The webs resources include census, electoral and newspaper data about the Greenses and Ravensdowne areas of Berwick which can be found on the Friends website. Back in 2004, we produced a paper copy of a list of admission of Berwick Freemen from 1800 to 1900. This has now been updated, rechecked and

made into a database, covering the period 1800 - 1941 which can be accessed via the Guild of Freemen website. In addition, thanks to the work of Helen Craggs, a volunteer and Jane Miller, we have also created educational resources for each First School in the town. This has been a great project to work on. I have learnt so much and it has introduced new people to the archive.

In addition to Berwick 900, work has continued on the Flodden Project which will be completed at the end of December. It is hard to believe that it is four years since I started that project – the time has absolutely flown by. The last couple of months have been taken up working on the final publication for the project. This contains a mixture of articles written by project volunteers and project staff and will be available by the time the newsletter has been produced. It is a great testimony to this community project which has helped us unearth new information from the Documentary Research perspective.

The Peregrini project which relates to the area around Holy Island is now starting to take off. I am running the Community Archive part and this has kept me busy over the summer and beyond. In the summer, we undertook an audit of the Lowick Churchyard Survey which the Friends completed many years ago. This was great fun and the weather was kind to us. We uncovered some additional stones and managed to penetrate the holly bushes this time. In addition, I have been running training on Palaeography and holding workshops with the geology and archaeology strands. We have been looking at Cocklawburn which is the northern periphery of the project and have learnt new information about the various settlements there. One of the main focuses of the project is Holy Island and there, some volunteers have been looking at the history of Holy Island lifeboat and pulling together information for interpretation of the restored Lifeboat House. This project still has a year to run and I'm sure we will unearth lots of new information and material along the way.

Projects obviously take up a lot of my time but we do get involved in other activities as well. In preparation for the sale of the Council Offices in Wallace Green, I have been assessing old files stored there and we have transferred a number of them to the archive. We have also continued to undertake outreach activities. As part of Heritage Open Days, I led guided walks around the Greenses and Ravensdowne. I also did a talk as part of the Literary Festival which introduced tasters of the Creative Writing undertaken as part of the Our Families Project. The stories can be found on the Our Families page on the Friends website (www.berwickfriends.org.uk). Other talks have been given to Chirnside Local History Society; Berwick Heart Group and Wooler U3A.

Life in the archives is never dull ! *Linda Bankier*

COCKLAWBURN

BERWICK ADVERTISER, 18 FEBRUARY 1954

Only a spark of life flickers where once a thriving village flourished

As part of the Peregrini project, we have been researching the communities at Cocklawburn – Saltpanhow; Philadelphia and Seabank. Now it is a place where people go to walk along the beach but in the past there were these small communities there. We have been trying to establish when the properties there ceased to be inhabited and this article brought us further forward in time than we originally thought :

One occupied house is all that remains of an almost forgotten community three miles down the coast from Berwick. That and the ruins of a kiln, a fishing shiel and dwellings. For between the proud structure of Sea House, Scremerston, and the cottages at Goswick there was once a thriving little village.

Half a century ago, two dozen houses were the homes of more than 70 people who made their living either by working at the kiln; on the old Scremerston Colliery on whose land they lived; or on the rich farm land which lay all around. To them, the North Sea was close enough to send its spray towards their dwellings. And to them, the jagged craters of today meant work in plenty.

Their forefathers had lived there, sweating in the kiln braving the frequent stormy seas, toiling in the brick works which even at the turn of the century had become a thing of the past, or slogging away in the bowels of the earth as coal miners. Today their ghosts look down on a picture of semi-desolation. One house out of 24 is occupied. Kept clean and tidy, it has been the home of Mr and Mrs William Bruce for the past 17 years. But there is no guarantee how long it will last.

“The house is condemned. When we get new accommodation goodness knows what will happen to the cottage. It may be pulled down or just left until the weather demolishes it like it has the others, “ they said on Friday.

Mr Bruce was born in the little coast community and he has lived there all his life. He has seen the change from a thriving little centre of industry to the present picture of quiet and peace.

Take the scene in February 1954. Along the tar-macadamed road from Scremerston Station – it’s now closed as a passenger stop – lie quarries and gullies. Once they were used to supply the lime for the kiln. Today they are neglected and one quarry

which used to be the deepest and busiest of all is the inland “home of seagulls, swans and other sea birds. Between 60 and 70 feet of water has turned it into a lake. At Saltpanhow stand half a dozen cottages, sloping down towards the rocks and the relentless breakers of the sea. Their roofs are off, red tiles litter the floors and only the walls remain. Even they have taken the pounding from the wind and rain and though it is little more than six years since they were occupied succeeding storms increase the desolation.

Further on stands a fishing shiel, its red roof bringing a splash of colour to the scene. It’s still in use, though its doors and windows are off and it stands exposed to the elements. A few hundred yards of road past quarries and grassy dunes bring one to the home of Mr and Mrs Bruce. Their cottage is very conspicuous with its neatly slated roof, and the smoke curling up from the chimneys. It is more conspicuous because it stands alone - a link with the past. Within feet are more ruined houses, and a battered shell which was once a combined blacksmith’s and joiner’s shop. Looking out of their windows they can see the derelict kiln. Grass and weeds have taken control of it, and pushed themselves through to cover large areas of masonry. Many of the bricks have tumbled down and the holes which the lime was poured are almost completely filled up. But there was a very humane reason for that. Mr Bruce explained “Just after the end of the war, the soldiers came and cleared away all the barbed wire and spikes which had been placed along the dunes in case of invasion. They dumped it down the holes and the seagulls which abound in this area used to become entangled with the wire. Within a few weeks there came a request to fill in the holes so there would be no suffering to the birds and that was duly carried out.

Signs of the brickworks, the poles which used to carry the telegraph wires to the manager’s cottage and the railway line which daily carried the finished products to the main line are almost invisible now. The majority of the people who live within a mile or two of the community are now engaged in farming, though Mr Bruce, once an employee of the old Scremerston Colliery is still a miner at Blackhill.

“I remember the bustle and industry around this district”, said Mr Bruce, whose home is still lit by oil lamps and who helped to lay the pipes which bring a consistent tap water supply to his house. When I used to go to Cheswick I used to watch the winches pulling the little tubs, loaded with lime, up from the quarries. Quite a number of workmen came out from Spittal to help with the work, and of course a lot of the local men were employed at the kiln. The pilot engines used to run out from Scremerston and they carried away train loads of lime which was eventually despatched to towns and cities in England and Scotland. The houses at Philadelphia – none remain now – were upstairs and downstairs and they were shaped like a half square. Further along were the houses at Saltpanhoe and the

private hotel at Sea House. The wages were not large but the people could make a living. The workmen came from Scremerston whenever there was any blacksmith's work to do. In those days, of course, a number of horses were essential and they had to be shod, the carts repaired and wheels put right so you can see that there was a necessity for blacksmith's premises down here. The joiner too, was a busy man. A delivery van, pulled by a little pony used to come out regularly from Spittal with provisions, and the owner, a Mr Chisholm, used to say that he made more money here than he did in the whole of Scremerston. Look at the scene now – we're left on our own in the only occupied house and most of the provisions are collected by my wife when we go into Berwick in the car. And Scremerston – well it's growing steadily every year. “

What do Mr and Mrs Bruce think of their little cottage? Said Mrs Bruce: “In the summer time when the sun is shining, the grass is green and the holidaymakers are flocking down to Cocklawburn, it is very pleasant. But in the wintertime, when the weather is cold and miserable, we often think we would like to move, A windmill a few yards away from their front door is a source of attraction to many visitors for it is home made. I built it myself to charge up the car batteries” , said Mr Bruce

Another man recalls the days of the lime kiln and that is Mr “Jim” Barnett, of Scremerston. He is the last surviving member of the team who were at the kiln during the last few months. And he still remembers the day 44 years ago, when it closed down for ever.

“Yes, it used to be a busy place. We worked long hours and it was often very heavy on us.”, said Mr Barnett. “Every day, however, there was plenty for us to do though towards the end only my father, another man and his son and myself were left. The kiln was closed down because it was becoming uneconomic to dig up the lime. But of course the houses were all there when that happened. Since that day 44 years ago, however, the life of that small area has taken a decided change. I am often down that way and I frequently think of things as they used to be.”

On the brighter side, however, is the fact that heavy lorries still make their way to the area where the little community flourishes. They collect loads of sand for a Belford firm, and this product from the North East tip of England still fulfils a very useful function. And the stretch of sand at Cocklawburn is becoming increasingly popular for holiday makers from all over the Borders. So long as this persists, a spark of life will remain among the ruins of the coastal community.

Linda Bankier

MUSEUM NEWS

JOINT FIRST WORLD WAR PROJECT WITH BERWICK RECORD OFFICE – HELP NEEDED

Berwick Record Office and Jane Miller at the Museum are about to start a First World War Education Project. Our intention is to create education packs for the First and Middle Schools in Berwick about the war, including information on individual soldiers who lived in the area around each school. By Christmas, we will have identified a list of men – both those who died and those who survived - that we need to research. This is quite a large job and it would be great if some volunteers could help us do that. The research has to be completed by the end of March and we would hope to start in January. If you would like to help, please contact Linda on berwickarchives@woodhorn.org.uk or jmiller@woodhorn.org.uk . This resource will be given out free to schools.

Linda Bankier and Jane Miller

PUBLICATIONS

Two books have just been published by the Record Office and the Friends which would make great Christmas presents. They can be purchased from the Record Office.

TRACING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY IN BERWICK, TWEEDMOUTH AND SPITTAL

This book has been produced as part of the Our Families Project. It is a guide to researching your family history in Berwick, Tweedmouth and Spittal and covers a variety of sources both basic and advanced. Each section provides general information on the source discussed, lists of what is available for this area and an example of local research undertaken during the project using the resource. The topics covered include census; civil registration; court records; irregular marriages; church records and manorial records. The books costs £8.99 and can be obtained from the Record Office – cheques made payable to “Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office” Postage and packing is £2.50 within the UK

THE FIFTIES IN FOCUS

The Friends have also produced a publication – The Fifties in Focus . This is a selection of photos from the Photocentre collection which are kept at the Record Office. Travel back in time to the 1950s in North Northumberland and relive events such as the Queen’s Visit, May Fair and the Crowning of the Tweedmouth Salmon Queen. All the pictures are unseen and it was very difficult to make the final selection. The volume is now available and costs £7.99. Postage and packing is £1.50. Copies can be obtained from the Record Office and cheques should be made payable to “FBDMA”.

For further information, contact berwickarchives@woodhorn.org.uk . Please note that our postal address is Walkergate Building, Walkergate, Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1DB.

Linda Bankier

CROOKHAM SNIPPETS

EXTRACT FROM THE “LEEDS TIMES” NEWSPAPER, 25TH MAY 1872.

AN EXTRAORDINARY AND UNSEEMLY SCENE occurred in the parish church of Crookham, Northumberland, on Sunday last. A proposal to raise the rents of the seats has been some time in agitation, and a few days ago each seat had the price to be paid in future affixed to it. This caused a great deal of dissatisfaction among the congregation, and many were determined not to pay at any higher rate than they had been doing. Two of the managers waited on the clergyman on Sunday to advice with him about the proposal as to the increase of the pew rents, and a discussion took place in the vestry, which lasted so long that the congregation were kept waiting fully thirty-five minutes past the usual time of commencing the service, all the time wondering at the sounds of heated argument proceeding from the neighbouring chamber. At length the clergyman made his appearance, and, after giving out the psalm and a short prayer, entered anew on the discussion which had been going on in the vestry about the seat rents. He thought the working people and farmers could easily afford to pay the advanced rents, and went into minute calculations of the effect the increase would have on the monthly weekly, and daily disbursements of each seat-holder. His calculations were stopped by a Mr. Greenfield, of Pallinsburn, who stood up and reminded the minister that these remarks would have been better made at the close of the service, and that the congregation did not desire to hear their arithmetical problems in domestic economy

solved in the pulpit, and paid enough already for the little good they got from attending Crookham Church. At this point Mr. Strutt, the collector of the seat rents, started to his feet, and objected to Mr. Greenfield abusing the minister, and hoped he would hold his tongue. Mr. Greenfield retorted, and closed by proposing that the rents for the seats remain as at present. This met with a seconder in Mr. Patterson of Branxton, and, on being put to the congregation, which had been gradually dwindling down to small proportions, was on a show of hands, declared to be carried, and the meeting dispersed. – *Scotsman*.

EXTRACT FROM BERWICKSHIRE AND GENERAL ADVERTISER, TUESDAY, 30TH JULY 1872.

THE CROOKHAM CHURCH - NORTHUMBERLAND – The church at Crookham has gained a notoriety over the whole of North Northumberland for the eccentricities not only of the minister, but also of the congregation. The Presbytery met recently to investigate into the recent irregular proceedings, and among the other complaints made against the minister it was stated that he did not attend to his pulpit on Sundays, but came into the church a quarter and sometimes half an hour too late. The beades, however, on being interrogated, said “that the minister was aye ready when he was wanted.” The minister complained that some of the congregation stood at the door and did not come into the church at the appointed hour. It would still seem, however, that the caution the presbytery administered has had little effect, and that both minister and people have fallen back into their old habits, and the use of a hand-bell has had to be resorted to. It was used for the first time on Sunday morning and rather startled the inhabitants of Crookham who are not all dissenters.

Maureen Charlton

VISITORS TO SPITTAL

Nineteenth Century Holidays in Spittal

One of the fascinating things about researching in the Berwick Archives is that every question which is even half answered poses more questions. For some months now I have been entering data on visitors to Spittal in the second half of the nineteenth

century, as listed in the "Berwick Advertiser". Who collected this information, first for Spittal and later in the century for Bamburgh, Wooler and elsewhere? And how? And why?

Where did all these people come from? Answer, mostly the Border towns, Galashiels, Hawick, St. Boswells and Kelso, and Edinburgh and the Tyne-side, but also from much further afield. In September 1880 Mr. Halliday from Wellington, New Zealand; in 1885 Mr. John Cant from Florence, Italy; Thomas Rae Esq. from New York and Miss Telfer from Boston, U.S.A. Did these people have links with Berwick, perhaps as emigrants, but they chose to holiday here?

Some army officers are listed, perhaps because of Berwick's connection with the services: in 1880 Col. and Mrs. Morton of the Bengal Army were staying, and in 1885 Capt. Adam Smith of the Rifle Volunteers was staying at 77 High St., Berwick, giving his address as "Calcutta, India".

The majority of visitors must have been from the professional and middle class in that they were able to take a holiday. A party from Dryburgh Abbey consisting of Lady Grizell Baillie, the Hon. Major Baillie and the Hon. Admiral Baillie stayed regularly in the 1880s, as did Ministers of religion, academics, bank managers and Provosts. And what of N. N. Sherman Esq. who came from London with his family, their governess, a maid and a manservant? Another regular visitor with his wife and family gave his address as The Cloisters, Westminster Abbey.

In the 1880s more than two hundred adults were staying in Spittal in any one week during August. The number could have been even greater because many are listed just as the "Misses" X or "Family". Although there are single gentlemen staying in the hotels, the Roxburgh, Blenheim, Spittal and Red Lion and the Tweed Inn as well as many boarding houses, and some single ladies too, often with a female friend, a large number of the visitors are married women with their families and quite often a maid or nurse, presumably to ensure the mistress enjoyed her holiday! A Berwick resident remembers Spittal in the 1930s when the wife and children would stay during the week and the husband would join them just for the weekend.

With so many visitors, how were they entertained? A question for another time perhaps.

Jean Watts

SNIPPETS FROM BAILIFFS' COURT

As part of the Flodden Project, Wendy and Alan Urwin have been transcribing the Bailiffs' Court and Common Council minutes from the late 1500s. Here are some of the entries they have found :

CASES FROM THE BAILIFF'S COURT BOOK 1594 (translation)

A Close Shave

In the Council Chamber on Saturday 16 November 1594 before Mr John Carey (Deputy Governor) and Mr Thomas Parkinson (Mayor) and the rest of the Council:

Bartholomew Richardson, a watchman on the town wall, was found guilty of abandoning his watch.

Richardson received the death penalty and was taken to the gibbet for his execution; this had been set up where the offence had taken place and many spectators were gathered.

As Richardson was about to be executed and after much consideration by Mr Carey and Mr Parkinson, it was decided to spare Richardson's life and, instead, to banish him from the town. He was taken from the gibbet to the Tollbooth where he remained for two days. Subsequently he was carried [probably by cart] over the Bridge and banished from the town except in the event of there ever being a special licence granted for his return.

Another near miss

In the Council Chamber on Saturday 15 March 1594 before Mr John Carey (Deputy Governor) and Mr Thomas Parkinson (Mayor) and the rest of the Council:

Thomas Fenwick (a pensioner) was found guilty of "*a filthy impudent and incenstuous act*" of sleeping with his niece (his sister's daughter) and of making her pregnant.

Fenwick had already been imprisoned for 14 days when he was called before the Council and two Preachers at the Tollbooth and the offence was further considered. It was decided that Fenwick should lose his pension and was to be banished from the town – he being not worthy of his previous rights.

After even more consideration it was decided that, if Fenwick was to confess his sins openly in church before the whole congregation, and before God, the

banishment could be lifted and he would alternatively be handed over to the Mayor and the Preachers for whatever punishment they might impose on him.

Wendy Urwin

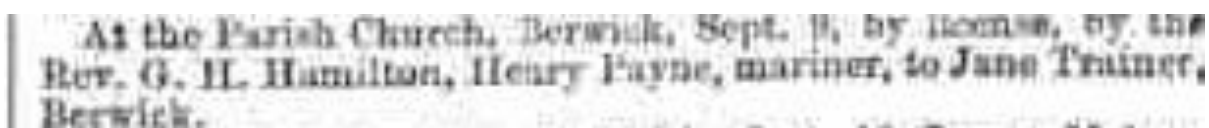
HENRI COMES TO BERWICK

Berwick has always had its incomers including those from overseas. One such was Henri Payn. If you had been buying fruit and vegetables in Marygate in the second half of the 19th century you might well have patronised Henri's greengrocery business in Crawford's Alley. You might have heard his cry of "Ne touchez pas!" if your fingers lingered over the tomatoes for sale. It is said that, so frequent was this cry, that locals gave him the nickname of "Toosh."

Henri arrived in Berwick about the early 1860's as a seaman from Jersey. It is thought he spent some time in Hartlepool prior to that. He had been born on Jersey after his parents moved there in order to avoid any sons being born in France where they could be conscripted into the French Army, according to family stories.

In 1864 he married Jane Trainer, a local girl, at Holy Trinity Church in Berwick. Because he was Catholic, he was allegedly excommunicated from the Catholic Church for this action. However, it is interesting to note that at this time the Catholic Chapel in Ravensdowne was temporarily closed. Was the choice of church intentional or circumstantial?

Illustrated Berwick Journal 16 September 1864



The 1871 census lists the following household in the High Street:

Henry Payn	Head	married	aged 37	fruiterer	born Jersey
Jane Payn	wife	married	aged 36		born Berwick
Henry Payn	son		aged 2		born Berwick
Alfred Payn	son		aged 1		born Berwick

By 1881 Henri seems to have adopted the anglicised spelling of his name as Henry Payne, has become a gardener, and he and Jane now have 5 children, Margaret 19, Henry 13, Mary 6, William 4 and John 9 months. Alfred is not listed. But where has Margaret sprung from? She was not with her mother in 1871.

Going back to the 1871 census provides a clue. There is a Margaret Trainer of the right age living with Isabella Trainer, Jane's mother just around the corner in Crawfords Alley. In 1861 Isabella and husband Simon are listed with Jane Mooney, fruiterer, married aged 26. So it appears that Jane has been married previously although her husband is not listed with her. A baptism for a Margaret Money on 8 September 1861 at Holy Trinity Church records her as the daughter of Richard and Jane Money, cooper of High St., Berwick, born 7 August 1861. No information on Jane's first marriage could be found so perhaps it was an Irregular Marriage taking place at Lamberton or Coldstream. An online newspaper search was successful in finding the following report which appeared in the very same newspaper edition as the announcement of Jane and Henry's marriage:

EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF POLYGAMY.—On Monday last, a man, aged about thirty, named Richard Money, a cooper to trade, was apprehended on a charge of bigamy. An unusual feature in such a case is the circumstance that the accused has been previously convicted of bigamy. In 1855 he was married to a woman in Perth; in 1856, while she was still alive, he was married to another woman in Leith; and for this act of bigamy, he was tried before the High Court of Justiciary, and sentenced to two years imprisonment. He is now charged with having, in the year 1860, been married in the Border fashion, at Lamberton Toll, in Berwickshire, his lawful wife being still alive. He was examined and committed to goal. The police had been on the look-out for the incorrigible polygamist for nearly three years, but could never get hold of him until now, when he was captured at Aulde, in Northumberland.

THE BERWICK JOURNAL.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 16, 1864.

So Jane must have made the traumatic discovery of her husband's crime, possibly not long before her subsequent marriage. It is not surprising she did not wish to retain the surname of Money for her daughter.

Simon Trainer was baptised at Spittal United Presbyterian in 1803. After a spell as a shoemaker, he had taken on the fruiterer's business from his wife's brother, George

Graham Carr, who set it up on Hide Hill. Berwick Workhouse records show that for many years he supplied the inmates with potatoes.

In view of Richard Money's crime it is quite likely that Jane's mother would care for the young child and even bring her up whilst Jane continued her work in the family business. But by 1881 she is living with Jane and Henry and her half-siblings and is listed on the census as Margaret Payne.

Was this the land where Henry grew his fruit and vegetables? He sold grapes from a vine he grew on his allotment in the Lion's Gardens. These would surely be prized products in those days. In 1875 a report in the newspaper tells of the damage done to his vinery by boys throwing stones and breaking the glass.

The Loazing Meadows adjoining "Redpath's Fields."			
No.	Let to	Let for	Old rent.
2	John Hattle,	£10 0 0	£8 0 0
3	do.,	8 2 6	7 5 0
4	Henry Robinson,	9 2 6	8 5 0
5	George Kenton,	7 10 0	7 10 0
6	Robert Blakey,	10 15 0	10 10 0
7	Henry Payn,	8 7 6	6 10 0
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		£53 17 6	£47 0 0

Berwick Advertiser 10 March 1871

There are several descendants of Henry and Jane living in Berwick today and they have a wealth of stories which have been handed down. Apparently Henry continued to work as an occasional seaman. He lost touch with his family back in Jersey at some stage but there is evidence that his brother made efforts to trace him in the form of a letter. Amazingly, the letter was found by chance in the back of a piece of furniture by a descendant in 1923. It is written in a mixture of English and French and written from the heart. He was obviously very anxious to trace Henry.

It is also said that Henry used to visit Paris every year.

It was believed that Henry had acted as an interpreter for Berwick Borough Council and was well-paid for doing so. In fact it was an enquiry from a descendant to the Record Office during a Berwick Families event that the quest for any such records of this work sparked off the search for Jane's first marriage. According to descendants he acted as interpreter for the council in maritime cases. Searching for evidence of this work was rather like looking for a needle in a haystack. However, an

online search of Berwick newspapers yielded a positive result but was rather different from expected. The following extract is taken from a much longer account of a Board of Trade enquiry held at Berwick concerning a ship which had been wrecked on the rocks at Boulmer:

“Georgio Nicholas, a Greek, an able seaman on board the *Magdala* interpreted by Henry Payne, Berwick,....” Extract from Illustrated Berwick Journal, 23 February 1872.

It is not known how Henry managed to interpret from (presumably) Greek!

The search for documentary evidence of the family anecdotes of Henry has been a fascinating one and goes to prove that if you look long and hard enough you will often be rewarded!

Thanks go to Yvonne Sim for additional information on the family.

Val Glass

VOLUNTEERS ON THE WEB

Over the years a considerable range of documents has been produced by volunteer Friends to assist other researchers: lists, indexes, transcripts, summaries. We have recently been able to add a number of these to the FBDMA website for ready access: here is a reminder of what is now available.

Index to the Photocentre Collection: a title and subject listing of the photographs (1950-2012) now held by the Record Office (currently to early 1990s, ongoing).

The Corn Exchange: its history recorded in transcripts of articles from the *Berwick Advertiser* (currently covering 1856-1890, ongoing).

Board of Guardians minute books and correspondence: documenting the administration of the Workhouse and the Poor Law.

Minutes: selected volumes 1846-1863.

Correspondence: 1859-1866.

First World War documents: a series of lists which are useful for finding references to individuals in that period.

Register of arrivals in Berwick (Oct 1915 to July 1919);

Register of removals within Berwick (Aug 1915 to June 1919);
Register of removals from Berwick to outside the area (Aug 1915 to June 1919);
Military Tribunals reported in the *Berwick Advertiser* (1916);
Berwick Petty Sessions courts (cases heard 1914–1915);
Glendale Petty Sessions courts (cases heard 1915–1920);
Norham & Islandshire Petty Sessions courts (cases heard 1915–1923);
Admissions to the Honorary Freedom of Berwick (1920–1927; for WW1 service).

"Our Families" project data: transcripts of personal information from censuses, electoral registers, newspapers, and other sources, relating to properties in three Berwick streets:
High Greens
Low Greens
Ravensdowne.

Most of these documents are provided in PDF format, which can be word-searched for names or topics, or downloaded. The "Our Families" information appears in standard web pages.

Find all the sources listed on the Catalogues & Documents web page:
<http://www.berwickfriends.org.uk/record-office/catalogues/>

John Spiers

PUBLIC HOUSES OF BERWICK

Recently, in reading CAMRA's booklet on Pub Interiors of Special Interest in the North East of England, I noted there was mention of the Free Trade (which had a full page, describing its historic interior), The Pilot, and the Brewers Arms and this led me to consider the sources available in the Berwick Record Office, for people wishing to discover the history of Berwick's pubs.

Lists exist in Trade Directories, arranged alphabetically by business, of the public houses and inns in Berwick over the last two centuries (though this does mean going through the list of businesses to identify the pubs) . Indeed, in a list of 1855, there are 71 licensed premises recorded for Berwick and Tweedmouth . By 1938, the Directory for that year lists 32 inns and hotels , including a couple of temperance hotels, which later became licensed. While many of these have disappeared now, it

is surprising how many lasted until the 1980s, and still exist, sometimes with a change of name such as the Red Lion, formerly known as The Anglers Cottage, in Castlegate or have become an (Indian) restaurant such as the Old Hen and Chickens in Bridge Street..

Berwick is fortunate in possessing a 1 : 500 map of the town, dated 1856 which identifies the pubs and inns on it, by name, so one can work out the location of the majority of them, particularly, where they have become private houses, such as The Coble Inn in Low Greens.

The Building (later Planning) Registers for Berwick (described in an earlier Newsletter), can identify when and in what manner, pubs were built or changed in character. The Building Register for 1928, for example, mentions the re-building of the Brewers Arms in Marygate.

The extensive photographic collection held in the Archives, and now accessible through the Friends website, shows not only the interior of pubs from the 1950s (usually shots of darts teams) , but also pubs that have disappeared, such The Old Bridge Tavern in Bridge Street.

One mustn't forget the decennial census returns from 1801 to 1911, which identify the proprietors of these establishments, who usually lived in, with their families, and possibly staff too.

The Registers of Licenses for Berwick Borough (P.S. 4/111 – 112), however are the main source of information on the pubs, hotels and inns of the town. They comprise of two volumes, the first 1903-1927, the second 1928-1946. They are arranged by name and address of the licensed premises, under which there are annual lists of licensees, indicating whether the license was granted, renewed or transferred. If the owner of a pub (eg a brewery) is different from the licensee/tenant, this is indicated. The Registers are useful for showing when a license expired, in other words, when the pub closed, so the Sun Inn in Woolmarket closed in 1921 when its license expired. Where a licensee has a conviction eg for gambling in his pub, this is also shown.

For a general history of the licensed trade and temperance in 19th century Berwick, see Wendy Scott's two publications on the subject.

Bob Steward

SNIPPETS FROM THE BERWICK ADVERTISER

Berwick Advertiser, 21st July 1871

TWEEDSIDE KETTLES

The Berwick Shipping Company enjoyed their annual "Kettle on Monday. The weather was pleasant, and the company which numbered upwards of twenty, partook of a plentiful supply of salmon, etc, at Haugh Shield. Alderman Gilchrist, Chairman of the Committee, occupied the chair, and the duties of vice chairman were discharged by William Young. Several appropriate toasts were accordingly pledged, and the company afterwards spent some time in outdoor sports. – The directors and shareholders of the Berwick and Tweedmouth Gas Company held their annual kettle on Wednesday afternoon. Fully twenty gentlemen joined in the pic-nic, which was celebrated in a marquee at Yard Ford. The Chairman of the company, Mr John Davidson, presided at the repast, and the vice-chair was occupied by Mr Buchanan. After the wants of the palate had been assuaged, the company resorted to quaiting and rowing, and notwithstanding the weather was disagreeable, rain having fallen at intervals, one and all seemed elated with their pic-nic.

Berwick Advertiser, 28th July 1871

POSTAL ALTERATIONS

A very important postal alterations, affecting the whole of Northumberland from Newcastle northward, will come into operation on the first of next month. The train leaving Newcastle at 4.48 a.m., know as the "Scotch Express, " will be converted into a mail train, and will carry the letter bags forward. Letters and newspapers will therefore reach Berwick nearly two hours earlier than at present. It is expected that in consequence of this change the South letters and papers will be delivered in town by half-past seven o'clock, in the morning. The alteration will not effect the Wooler and Rothbury delivery, as the coaches to these towns will not leave Alnwick and Morpeth until the arrival of the second mail from Newcastle.

Berwick Advertiser, 18th August 1871

EAST ORD-SCHOOL TREAT

The scholars attending East Ord school, through the kindness and liberality of Mrs Elliot Grieve, of Ord House, had their annual treat on Thursday the 10th inst. They assembled at the schoolroom, and marched in procession to a field on the pleasant banks of the Tweed, kindly granted for the occasion by Mr Sprat, East Ord. The weather being favourable, various games and other amusements were engaged in which afforded pleasure to all. On returning to the village green upwards of 130 children sat down to an ample supply of spice loaf and tea. At the close of their repast, three hearty cheers were given for the generous donor of the treat, when the children separated, highly delighted with the day's enjoyments.

Carole Pringle



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!